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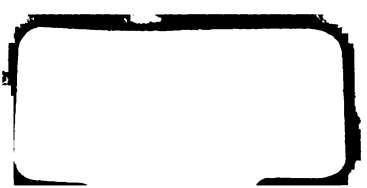

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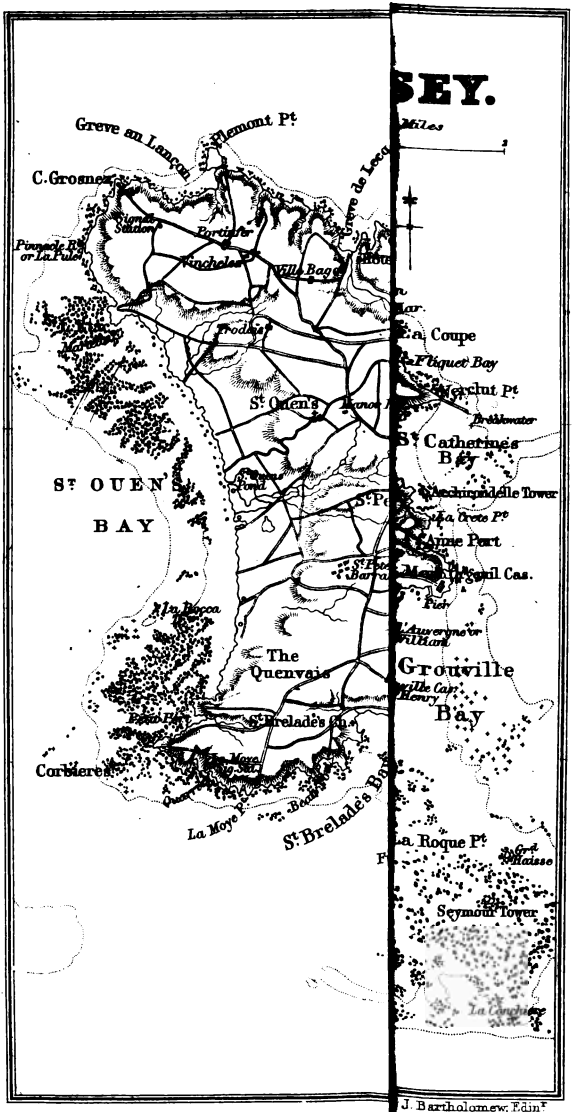


J. Bartholomew, F.din.r

BLACK'S GUIDE

TO THE

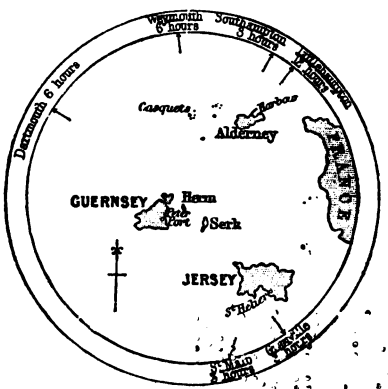
CHANNEL ISLANDS

EDITED BY

DAVID THOMAS ANSTED

M.A., F.R.S., ETC.

EIGHTH EDITION.



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PREFACE.

THE present Guide is in some respects an abstract of a larger volume published by the Editor and his friend, Dr. R. G. Latham, F.R.S. It is illustrated by some of the engravings in that volume, but contains maps prepared expressly for the Guide, and additional engravings, some from original sketches by Mr. Naftel, and some from photographs. It is intended more especially for the Tourist, and presents, in a condensed form, the outline facts most useful to those visitors of the Channel Islands who chiefly desire suggestive information. If further and more detailed accounts are required, they will be found in the larger work by the Editor already alluded to, or in the local island histories. Of these latter,

Falle's History of Jersey, Duncan's History of Guernsey, and the more recent histories and historical notices by Mr. F. Tupper and Dr. Hoskins, are the most important.

D. T ANSTED.

CONTENTS.

	Page
General Description of the Islands	1
Approaches	3
Archæology and History	6
Language	10
Climate	13
Natural History	16
Geology	21
Laws and Constitution	23
Skeleton Tours	27
Jersey	33
St. Helier's	41
Places of Interest, in alphabetical order	49 to 88
Guernsey	89
St. Peter Port	98
Places of Interest, in alphabetical order	106 to 141
Sark	143
Alderney	165
Index	189

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

INDEX MAP—Showing the position of the Channel Islands.

Map of Jersey . . . . . *Frontispiece*

Old Cromlech, formerly on the ground now occupied by Fort Regent, Jersey. From a sketch by Mr. P. Le Lievre of Guernsey . . . . . *Page* 6

The Town of St. Helier's, seen from the Harbour. From a photograph by Mr. Bashford, of No. 15 Bath Street, Jersey 41

Plan of the Harbour of St. Helier's, Jersey. By Mr. W. H. Le Mesurier of Guernsey 43

Ruined Arch at Grosnez, Jersey. From a sketch by Mr. Naftel 62

Mont Orgeuil, Jersey 67

Map of Guernsey and Herm—to face 89

Albert Statue and Town Church, Guernsey. From a photograph by Mr. Bashford 89

Harbour of St. Peter Port, Guernsey. By Mr. Le Mesurier, from Mr. Lyster's plans 100

PAGE

Ancient Weapons and Implements found in the Channel Islands, and now in the Museum, Grange Road, Guernsey. From a sketch by Mr. Naftel . . 103

Porch of St. Martin's Church, Guernsey. From a drawing by Mr. Le Lievre 135

Guernsey Fishing-boat. From a drawing by Mr. Le Lievre 141

Map of Serk 142

Autelet Rocks, Serk. From a photograph by Dr. Mansell of Guernsey 153

View of the Coupée, Serk. From a photograph by Mr. Bashford 159

An old Doorway in Guernsey. From a drawing by Mr. Le Lievre 163

Map of Alderney 165

View from the Lovers' Chair, Alderney—to face . 167

Plan of Braye Harbour, Alderney. By Mr. Le Mesurier 170

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

THE groups of islands and rocks in the British Channel, chiefly belonging to England, and generally spoken of as "the Channel Islands," include (1) four principal islands, Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, and Serk; (2) a few much smaller but inhabited islands; and (3) a number of rocks isolated and in groups. The whole form a belt parallel to part of the Normandy coast, trending southwards from Cape la Hogue to Mont St. Michel. The principal groups are south of one another, and lie in the following order as regards England:—Alderney and the Casquets about 60 miles distant; Guernsey, Herm, and Serk, 70 miles; Jersey, 90 miles. Of the islands, Jersey is much the largest and most populous. Guernsey has about half the area of Jersey, and about half the population. Alderney is important as a military position, and has a large mixed population. Serk is remarkable for its picturesque beauty, but is thinly peopled compared with Alderney.

The Channel Islands are among the most interesting possessions of the British Crown, and offer greater

variety of attraction to the tourist than any of the watering-places, or other summer and autumn resorts, within easy distance of England. The principal islands all exhibit coast scenery only equalled—not excelled—in the wildest and grandest parts of Cornwall, the west coast of Ireland, and the western islands of Scotland. The interior of Jersey is equal in rural scenery to Devonshire. The language and customs of the country people carry us back to the time of the Norman Conquest; the style of building of the farm-houses is equally ancient. Here the artist will find abundant material for his pencil, the naturalist of every description will fill his note-book and specimen-box, and the invalid will enjoy a climate more equable than any in Europe. These advantages are only counterbalanced by the difficulty of approach. Placed near the French coast, it might be thought that access from that quarter would be easy, but this is hardly the case. To reach the islands from England, the Channel must be crossed, and this transit of about sixty miles is often not pleasant even to those well accustomed to steamboat travel. But when the crossing is made, and the great bay entered in which the islands are grouped, the case is not improved. Owing to the peculiar set of the tides, and the currents produced by the form of the French land, there is an almost perpetual disturbance of the water of this bay, which is crowded with innumerable rocks, some permanently above, and many permanently below the surface, but very many visible or concealed according to the state of the tide, and all

dangerous. There are few days when all the islands can be reached without trouble. Thus boating is neither a very pleasant, nor indeed a safe amusement; and the rapid rise of the tide requires caution in bathing. Area of the islands in acres 48,322. Population (1871) 99,506, consisting of 40,308 males and 50,288 females.

APPROACHES.

There are several routes by which these interesting islands may be conveniently visited. A cursory notice of these in their order it may be useful to subjoin. The most important, and that for which the greatest facilities are afforded is that:—

(1.) Via Southampton.

This is the quickest and best route, with a moderate length of sea-passage—the distance from Southampton to St. Helier's being about 156 miles. It is arranged in connection with the London and South-Western Railway. This company runs its fast trains, carrying passengers for the mail steamers into the Southampton docks, alongside of the vessels, and has made provision for the transference of luggage from the trains to the ship without trouble or any additional expense; and, for the greater convenience of tourists, a French interpreter accompanies these mail trains. The fares include dock dues, steward's fee, etc. These, with the days and hours of leaving, can be best learned from the Railway Guide or the Company's Time-Table, either of which it is advisable to consult. Special summer arrangements are usually made for the issue of return tickets, allowing a long date, at reduced fares. The average sea journey by screw steam ship is to Guernsey 8 or 10 hours, and to Jersey between 10 and 12 hours.

(2.) Via Weymouth.

Through communication between all the stations connected with the Great Western Railway and the Channel Islands has

been arranged for, from the Dorsetshire seaport of Weymouth, distant from St. Peter Port 82 miles, and from St. Helier's about 112 miles. Trains and steamers ply in connection with each other according to temporary arrangements and circumstances. Facilities are, in general, greatly increased in the summer season; but particulars regarding fares, trains, and packets, should be sought for either in the Railway Guides or in the Company's Time Tables. The average time occupied in the sea passage is from 7 to 9, and 9 to 11 hours respectively, as wind and weather permit.

(3.) Via Dartmouth.

A steamer sails from Dartmouth Harbour to Guernsey (80 miles), Jersey (30 miles), and St. Malo (42 miles), in connection with the Great Western Railway, and through tickets are issued from many stations on that and its associated lines, to either of these places. The passage to Guernsey occupies 6 or 7 hours, and the others are reached in proportional times. See Railway Guides and Company's Tables.

(4.) St. Malo and Granville.

1. A steamer plies between St. Helier's and the fortified town and seaport of St. Malo, in France (the birthplace of Jacques Cartier, the discoverer of Canada). The distance is 42 miles, and the average time occupied in the passage is 3 hours.

2. From St. Helier's a steam ship plies to Granville, a fortified town at the mouth of the Bosq, in France, which was burnt by the English in 1695, and besieged in the war of La Vendée in 1793. It is 30 miles distant, and the passage is made in 2 hours, or so.

The passage across the English Channel is generally not agreeable to those who have an antipathy to the sea, but otherwise, and when the weather is fine, this voyage is one of the most enjoyable that can be made.

Approaching the islands from England, the CASQUETS ROCKS are first seen. They are parts of a numerous group about 1½ miles in length from east to west, and half a mile across. They occupy a prominent position, and are extremely dangerous to ships coming up channel. They rise abruptly out of deep water in the direct track of vessels. There are three lights on them, all revolving and placed on towers. The lights are 112 feet above the water, each light being of the first class, and visible in fine weather for twenty miles. A bell is sounded in foggy weather. There are two landing-places on the rocks, but the landing is always difficult and only occasionally possible. The Casquets are connected with Alderney by the Burhou islands, and by other islands, rocks, and shoals. There are two passages between the Casquets and Alderney, the principal one being the Swinge (*passe au Singe*), close to Alderney. This is both narrow and shallow, but is the usual passage. The other is wider and deeper, but more dangerous.

From the Casquets to Guernsey, and thence to Jersey, the passage is greatly affected by the state of the tide. Within the Bay of St. Michel, the tide-wave is multiplied and complicated to an extraordinary degree. The rise at Jersey is nearly 40 feet, at Guernsey 30,

and at Alderney 20 feet at high spring-tides. At neap tides these figures are reduced to 23, 19, and 13 feet respectively. The height and strength of the tides are subject to much modification by winds.

The currents in these waters by no means correspond to the course of the tidal wave, and are very complicated. Generally the stream flows from half flood to half ebb, and ebbs from half ebb to half flood. Between Guernsey and the Casquets the current sets from every point of the compass during each tide, and thus in foggy weather the navigation is both difficult and dangerous.

ARCHÆOLOGY AND HISTORY.

OLD CROMLECH, FORMERLY NEAR ST. HELIER'S, JERSEY.

The earliest history of the Channel Islands belongs to a period of which we have no written records. Cromlechs, menhirs, and other monuments of a very ancient people, still exist, and were till within a century extremely numerous. Remains buried under them

have in some few instances been preserved, and they include vessels of coarse clay, and stone weapons and implements. Many of these were collected, and have been described by, the late F. C. Lukis, Esq. of Guernsey, who filled the cabinets of his museum, Grange Road, St. Peter Port, with objects of the highest interest to those who have a taste for antiquities and archæology.* There are still some good specimens of cromlechs and menhirs in Guernsey and Jersey, and some less perfect in Alderney. These will be alluded to in the detailed accounts of the islands.

That the written history of the Channel group is comparatively recent the names of the islands are sufficient proof. It has been customary to recognise in Jersey a modification of *Cæsarea* (its name in the Itinerary of Antoninus); more probably both *Jers-ey* and *Guerns-ey* (Grass-isle and Green-isle) were originally Norse names, the former being modified by the Latins and thus made to pay a forced compliment to the emperor. The name of Alderney (*Riduna* of Antoninus and *Aurigny* of the late Normans) may have had a similar Norse origin. At any rate there is nothing that shows a trace of Celtic origin, either in the names of the islands or of the principal places within them.

Although the islands were certainly known and visited, and perhaps permanently inhabited from time to time before the Roman occupation of Gaul, and con-

* Mr. Lukis was an excellent naturalist. The museum is private, but we presume that its treasures would be open on application to any one taking an interest in its contents.

tinued to attract some attention in the early centuries of the Christian era, it was not till the sixth century that they seem to have taken a definite position in history. About that time St. Helerius in Jersey, and St. Sampson in Guernsey, seem to have flourished. They are patron saints, and the town of St. Helier's in the one island, and St. Sampson's in the other, have immortalised them. They were probably Irish saints. A certain St. Maglorius accompanied them.

From this important event to the occupation of the islands by the Northmen, during the ninth century, there are few records, and we only mention the Northmen to introduce the name of Rollo, the father of William Duke of Normandy, the conqueror of England, who frequently appears in the island histories. During this time the islanders were passing under Norman influence, and assuming a character they have never since lost. A curious appeal, in which the aggrieved person calls out Ha! Ro! is still occasionally made in the islands, and is clearly traceable to this chieftain. It is made in some cases of trespass.

During the reign of the first four kings of England the islands were alternately under English and Norman rulers. It is not, indeed, till the time of John that any important political event is recorded as affecting them. This prince is said to have given constitutions to the islands. The authenticity of the so-called Guernsey charter of King John is very doubtful, and its value *nil;* but it is at least certain that from its date the islands have existed in a distinct political condition,

and that since then they have never been removed from English allegiance.

Still, however, and for some time afterwards, the ecclesiastical union with France was preserved, and they were included within the diocese of Coutances. It was not till the Reformation that this connection was severed. In 1656 the Bishop of Coutances acted for the last time as Metropolitan, and two years afterwards the islands were attached to the See of Winchester, to which they still belong. Towards the end of the fourteenth century the islands were by common consent freed from aggression on the part of France, in accordance with a safe conduct granted to Guernsey in 1372, and recognised by successive monarchs. In the reign of Henry V., however, Jersey was held by the French for six years.

The character of the Reformation in the islands was essentially Puritan and Presbyterian. This naturally governed the local politics during the civil war; but the two principal islands varied, Jersey becoming loyalist, and Guernsey republican, although each remained inflexibly Protestant. Twice during his eventful life, Charles II. found refuge in Jersey, once in 1646, when he resided about a month at Elizabeth Castle, and again after his defeat at Worcester, in 1651. Then the islands came into the full possession of the Parliament, but after the Restoration they returned to their allegiance without difficulty.

Under William III. the privilege of neutrality that

had been so long enjoyed by the islands was abolished, but with this the chance of privateering began, and was of far greater value. Imperfect and badly organised attacks were made on Jersey in 1779 and 1781, by the French. The latter was defeated by the gallantry of Major Pierson, who, however, was killed in the market-place. His death forms the subject of an admirable picture by Copley.* This was the last attempt of the French to take possession of the island.

During the American war the islands, especially Guernsey, prospered greatly by privateering and smuggling. This prosperity increased during the French wars that followed, and was continued by regular traffic after the peace. Their political condition has been uniformly quiet. The suppression of smuggling has been effected rather from the change of English law than from any legislative measures carried into operation with unusual stringency. The islands are and have long been eminently loyal to the person of the reigning monarch.

LANGUAGE.

The language of the islands is very peculiar. Its basis is unquestionably the Norman-French or Anglo-Norman, by whichever name national feeling may prompt the writer to describe it. Cultivated first in England, and then gradually absorbed in Saxon combination so as to become English, Englishmen have long since lost all recognition of it as a distinct dialect.

* This picture is now in the National Collection at South Kensington.

Cultivated also in France it has become modern French. Each main development thus possesses a vast and increasing literature; while the parent tongue, with such modifications as could be produced by races not very dissimilar in essentials but rarely agreeing in details, still remains among the Channel Islands as a spoken language, though without other literature than a few modern poems and newspaper articles.

There are three tolerably well-marked dialects—those of Jersey, Guernsey, and Serk. Possibly there may have been another in Alderney, but specimens are wanting, and even of the Serk there are no written examples. From a letter accompanying "lines to the memory of Wace," a Jerseyman of the 12th cent., by Mr. J. Sullivan, author of a Dictionary of the Jersey *patois*, and of songs and poems in the language of the *Roman du Rou*, we quote a specimen of the insular dialect :—

"Daeux trais rimmes à la memouaithe de Maistre Wace, un vier Prêtre Gerriais qui m'passe bain près du cœu, quoi qu'il yiait bétost huit chents ans que le pouor' bouanhomme erpose paisibliement souos la blièste. J'ai bain des fais paslait à mes ammins à l'endrait d'esl'ver un monueusment à s'nhonneu, mais chest comme si j'm'capuchais la teste contre la pathé, il ont poeux de desmouaizir quicq'herpins; Eh! mon Gui il en laissont drièthe ieux d'ches fréluques, nou n'les mettra pou à lus servir d'ouothilli quand nou les pliache'cha dans lues dernièthe grande naithe casaque, et que non l'z' envietha à s'er'poser dans l'bian grand Gardin à noutr' ammin le Ministre Fillieu."

The following is a part of the poem :—

"Oh de grâces sausvons nouotre langue Gerriaise,
Car chest un vier paslin dign' d'être respectai.

Disons à nos esfants qu'il est bain vénérable,
Accouostumons les dan à l'entendre tréjours.
Sou ne le d'visiez pas, j'essais bain minsérable
Ah! ertenais le bain et l'paslais touos les jours."

The difference between the Guernsey and Jersey dialect will be appreciated on comparing the above with the following extract of a poem by Mr. G. Metivier, one of a large collection :—

"Tu me r'quemandais les Filles.

"J'en ai veûe de bien des sortes
Sans en profitair grandment;
Quand nou prend l'achie trop forte,
Men vier garçon, nou s'en r'pent;
Ma tête n'est qu'à maînti grise,
Mais, sage ou fo, jâne ou vier,
Je n'frai jamais la sottise
De m'gênair pour daeux biaux iers."

Note.—The following translations into modern French may be convenient for comparison :—"Deux ou trois rimes à la mémoire de Maistre Wace, un vieux Prêtre qui me passe bien près du cœur, quoi qu'il y'ait bientôt huit cents ans que le pauvre bonhomme repose paisiblement sous le gazon.* J'ai bien des fois parlé à mes amis au sujet d'élever un monument à son honneur, mais c'est comme si je me cognais la tête contre un mur, ils ont peur de dépenser quelques sous—et, mon Dieu, ils en laisseront derrière eux de ces fréluques, on ne les mettra point à leur servir d'oreiller, quand nous les plaçerons dans leur dernier grand habit noir (cercueil) et qu'on les enverra se reposer dans le beau grand jardin (le cimetière) de notre ami le Révérend Filleul (le recteur de la Paroisse)."

"Oh! de grâces sauvons notre langue Jersiase,
Car c'est un vieux patois digne d'être respecté,

* "Sous la bliète" means sod, or "under the turf" (in his grave).

Disons à nos enfans qu'il est bien vénérable,
Accoûtumons-les donc à l'entendre toujours;
Si vous ne l'parliez pas, je serais misérable,
Ah! retenez-le bien, parlez-le tous les jours."

"TU ME RECOMMANDES LES FILLES.

" J'en ai vu de bien des sortes
Sans en profiter grandement,
Quand on prend choses trop fortes
Mon vieux garçon l'on s'en repent,
Ma tête n'est qu'à moitié grise,
Mais sage ou fou, jeune ou vieux,
Je ne ferai jamais la sottise
De me gêner pour deux beaux yeux."

CLIMATE.

The climate of the Channel Islands is peculiar. It is remarkable especially for its equability, and differs essentially in many points both from the climates of England and France. The days in summer are rarely hot, and the nights are cool and pleasant. The latter part of summer is generally fine, passing into early autumn without perceptible change. The autumn in ordinary seasons is singularly equable, and lasts very late into the year. Storms and occasional heavy rains mark the approach of the equinox, but cold does not then set in, and night frosts are rarely felt before December. In October occurs what is called St. Martin's summer, and similar weather marks the last month of the year. During spring, winds from northerly quarters are frequent, violent, and disagreeable. They feel cold, but are not often

accompanied by frost. They are often very dry. During the other seasons, southerly and westerly winds prevail.

Of the different islands, Guernsey possesses the typical climate, and is decidedly the most favourable for invalids. It is warmer in winter, and somewhat cooler in summer, than Jersey. It is, however, damper, the atmosphere being more cloudy, and more rain falling on more days in the year. In Jersey the rains are somewhat heavier; continued rain is rare in all the islands. The thermometer range is smaller in Guernsey, and the barometer range in Jersey. The two islands occupy distinct positions with regard to the great atmospheric wave, and though so near they rarely agree exactly in temperature or pressure of the air.

The mean annual rainfall in Guernsey is about 35 inches, and in Jersey something less. The mean number of days on which rain falls is 164. October is the wettest month, and from October to January inclusive is the wettest season of the year. During these four months, the fall is 16½ inches. More rain falls during the night than during the day. Not only is a long continuance of rain unusual, but a wet morning is generally succeeded by a fine afternoon. Snow falls rarely. Hail falls at all seasons, but not frequently, and never very heavily. The air is frequently clouded. Dense sea-fogs are common in May and June. The dews are very heavy in all the islands.

The above brief outlines of the climate of the island

are abridged from a chapter on the subject in "The Channel Islands."* The reader is referred to that work for the observations on which these conclusions are based.

The climate of Alderney is considered drier and more bracing than that of Guernsey, but south-westerly winds are more prevalent. There have been no continued observations recorded by competent observers, either in Alderney or Serk, but it is believed that the two islands agree more with each other than with Guernsey or Jersey.

The climate of the islands is favourable to the health of old people and children, and is no doubt capable of checking the progress of most chronic diseases, and of pulmonary consumption in its early stages. Rheumatism, however, is common, and liver complaints are not unfrequent. An insular atmosphere is, of course, more humid than that of the mainland, but the Channel Islands are quite free from miasma, and there is much less of depressing influence in the climate than their position might lead one to expect.

It may safely be said that all the islands of the Channel group are admirably adapted to restore the health, and strengthen, both mentally and bodily, the overtaxed energies of the inhabitants of great

* "The Channel Islands." By David Thomas Ansted, M.A., F.R.S., etc., and Robert Gordon Latham, M.D., F.R.S., etc. With illustrations, drawn by Paul J. Naftel. London: Allen and Co. 1862.

cities. They afford a pure clear atmosphere containing a large quantity of saline matter and iodine, and the frequent high winds ensure a constant freshness, preventing the depressing effect sometimes accompanying humidity.

NATURAL HISTORY.

Owing to the peculiar climate of the Channel Islands, the vegetable productions, both indigenous and introduced, are highly interesting and varied. Of the familiar land plants, excluding ferns and mosses, there are nearly 900 species named and described, and of these only about 160 are common to all the islands. More than one-fourth part are peculiar to Jersey, while only about 50 species absent in Jersey are found in Guernsey, Serk, and Herm. Practically Jersey approximates in its botany to the adjacent shores of Normandy, while Guernsey and Serk, and the small islands between them, form one outlying and connected group. Alderney again is distinct, and possesses a comparatively rich and varied fauna.

"When, however, we pass to the consideration of the special tribes characteristic of a moist clouded climate, we find that Guernsey, with half the area of Jersey, almost equals, or even exceeds that island in the number of species. Thus, of 25 known species of ferns found in the islands, 21 occur in Guernsey, and only 20 in Jersey. Of these, 5 are peculiar to Guernsey, and only 2 to Jersey. The number and

proportions of unnamed varieties would illustrate the same peculiarity in a manner yet more marked; and the richness of fern vegetation is certainly far greater in the smaller, damper, and cloudier, but more temperate island."*

There is much that is striking to the stranger in the vegetation of the islands. The ilex or evergreen oak is eminently characteristic. It is well grown, and constantly retains its bright green foliage. The elm is also common, and the beech grows well. Trees are not approved of by the farmers in either of the islands, as they are believed to harbour birds. They are not lofty, but neither are they disfigured and cut off by sea winds. The common furze and bramble are the most prominent shrubs. 'Butcher's broom' (*ruscus aculeatus*) is also very abundant in the hedges.

Both Jersey and Guernsey are wonderfully rich in wild flowers, some of which are not indigenous, though now naturalised. Several orchids, a great variety of beautiful grasses, the foxglove, some ixias, the horned poppy, and the great sea-stock, are among those that brighten the landscape. Of flowerless plants, the ferns are first in interest. The hart's-tongue and the species called respectively the male and the lady ferns are perhaps the most striking, but the common brake is extremely luxuriant. The *blechnum* or hard fern is common, and the prickly ferns may also be noticed. Mosses are abundant, and grow very freely in Guernsey. They are less common in Jersey, and in Serk the

* Ansted and Latham's "Channel Islands," p. 198.

variety is small. Lichens freely grow and cover the granite and other rocks in all the islands. Upwards of two hundred species of sea-weeds are named as belonging to the islands, but the lists are not complete. The *Fucus* and *Laminaria*, under the name of *Vraic*, afford an important harvest to the islanders, and a very picturesque scene for the artist.

Owing to their peculiar climate, both Jersey and Guernsey are singularly adapted for garden cultivation, and a great number of foreign plants and trees may be seen in both islands flourishing and almost naturalised. Guernsey is most remarkable for flowers, and Jersey for fruit, but both are rich in every kind of vegetation. The Guernsey lily, introduced by accident from Japan, now grows and flowers freely. The camellia is more full in flowering, and grows more luxuriantly, than anywhere in Europe. The geranium grows and remains as a standard during winter in a manner only familiar to those who have seen it at Gibraltar and Malaga. The arbutus ripens its winter strawberry perfectly. The magnolia (two species) grows to be a noble tree. The myrtle is trained against houses, and spreads to a height only limited by that of the house it clings to. The fuchsia is a common and large tree. Yuccas and the Mexican aloe flower freely. Besides the lilies already mentioned, the Cape bulbs all grow well in Guernsey; and the *gladiolus*, *ixia*, and *belladonna* are so frequent and so beautiful as to be almost characteristic of the gardens in these islands.

There are few indigenous quadrupeds and few rep-

tiles, but upwards of two hundred species of birds have been named, most of them from Guernsey, which is a convenient resting-place for those kinds that delight in the storm, and love rugged cliffs and dashing waves. Five species of wild goose, sixteen of wild duck, five of plover, six of gull, two of petrel, two of wild swan, and five of grebe, besides puffins, cormorants, auks, and others, all illustrate this. Bitterns and herons, snipes and woodcocks, terns, and even the avocet, swell the list.

The variety of fish round the shores of the islands is not less striking, and these again are chiefly caught round Guernsey, and at the Minquiers. The wrasse, or rock-fish, the whiting-pollack, the gar-fish, or green-bone, and the gigantic conger, never fail. Turbot, brill, dory, mullet, cod, mackerel, bonito, and tunny, are also among the productions of the sea that supply the market; while the sword-fish, sun-fish, angel-fish, and even the sea-horse, the lamprey, and the blue shark, find their way from time to time to the shoals, and enter the bays of the islands. A kind of smelt called the *roselet*, and a sand-eel, the *lançon*, are delicate little morsels, sometimes very plentiful.

Bivalve and univalve shells and their inhabitants abound in the seas and on the rocky shores of the islands, and several species of boring shells, terebratula, mussel, cockle, and triton, are found, that do not belong to the British fauna. This is the case also with the crustaceans, some of which attain unusually large dimensions. The crab, the lobster, and the craw-

fish, or spiny lobster, are common, and supply the London market. Shrimps are very abundant, and are much eaten. The Haliotis or Ormer (*sea-ear* or *oreille-de-mer*) is very common both in Jersey and Guernsey, and is used for food. It is also eaten in Sark.

The rocks and some of the caves round Guernsey and Sark especially, but also round the other islands, are marvellously peopled with sea anemones, and with a multitude of species of zoophytes. Upwards of eighty species of these are named, and the varieties are numerous. The more common species cover the rocks at half-tide, leaving little room for the rarer and more interesting species. Patches of colour due to the presence of these animals characterise many parts of the coast. Serk is of all the islands the most rich in these tribes, and the Gouliot caves in that island are unrivalled. Numerous sponges inhabit similar localities

The Channel Islands are rich in most departments of animal as well as vegetable life, and there is ample room for discovery in all departments of natural history. Whether on land, on a sandy or rocky shore above high-water mark, in that wild and interesting field that in these islands intervenes between tides, or in those deeper recesses which the water never leaves, life is ever present, and the forms of life are so rich, so varied, so beautiful, and so accessible, that no one need tire of the pursuit of natural history when placed within their range.

GEOLOGY.

The mere fact of the existence of the Channel Islands in the part of the ocean in which they are placed, and under the circumstances of the adjacent shores, suggests to the geologist that they must be battered and worn, and must consist of the fragments of some hard rock corresponding to other similar rock on the side of Brittany or Normandy. In point of fact, all the outlying islands are granitic, while Jersey and Alderney alone exhibit stratified rocks of the ordinary kind, and these in no great abundance nor containing fossils. It might therefore be imagined that the islands possess little geological interest, but this is by no means the case. They abound in illustrations of the structure of crystalline metamorphic rocks and their veins, and they present innumerable and most instructive examples of some of the most recent changes that have taken place upon the earth.

The rocks throughout the islands are chiefly varieties of granite, and they contain in abundance the minerals belonging to such material. Very beautiful crystals of felspar and hornblende, many kinds of quartz in a crystalline state, and delicate crystals of mica, are common. Epidote, actinolite, and other minerals are characteristic. Asbestos and other minerals containing magnesia, besides serpentine as a rock, are found. Chlorite is everywhere abundant. The granites of all the islands, but especially of Guernsey, are well adapted for economic purposes. They be-

long almost entirely to the variety called syenite, in which hornblende replaces the mica of ordinary granite.

Except Jersey and Alderney, the islands are so far denuded of any rocky covering they may once have possessed, that the granitic or gneissic foundation is generally laid bare. Alderney has a few patches of sandstone, and Jersey presents some shales, schists, and conglomerates, as well as sandstone.

Raised beaches, affording proof of elevation within the latest geological period, and submarine forests, illustrating the converse phenomenon of recent depression, may be observed in most of the islands, and it is thus certain that alterations of level have taken place within comparatively modern times. Earthquakes also have been felt. Important shocks have been recorded, especially about the 8th, 11th, and 12th centuries. In December 1843, and again in April 1853, there were earthquake shocks of some magnitude, shaking buildings and ringing church bells.

One of the most interesting points of study for the geologist is derived from the great change now going on owing to the mechanical action of the waves and the large surface of rock exposed. The coasts of all the islands are so deeply indented by the waves, there are so many outlying rocks and eroded caverns, there are so many veins of soft rock enclosed in hard, and of hard rock penetrating soft, and such innumerable boulders and fragments of rock in every little bay, that the modern changes are rapid and very great. No

more instructive locality for the study of such changes could be pointed out.

Another result of weathering is seen in the extremely deep and thorough disintegration of the granite in many places. Twenty or even thirty feet below the surface, the granite is in some parts of Jersey, Guernsey, and Alderney, converted into a kind of gravel that can be dug out for the garden-paths, and thus rendered useful. It is only some parts of the rock that thus decompose, the rest remaining in hard nodules that look as if they had been rolled.

Sands are found on the shores of all the islands, and they are blown by the prevalent winds so as to form thick beds in certain localities. Deposits of brick-clay and pottery-clay are found in the principal islands, and large quantities of stone of a superior quality are exported to England, to be used in the manufacture of china-ware.

LAWS AND CONSTITUTION.

The islands form two distinct groups in matters of law and constitution, Jersey alone constituting one group, and Guernsey with the smaller islands another. Alderney and Sark, however, though intimately connected with Guernsey in government, have separate legal existence.

Each group at present has a Lieutenant-Governor, a Judge, called the Bailiff, a Dean, or local ecclesiastical superior, a States Assembly, and a Royal Court. The

rights and privileges of these officers and bodies are very different in the two governments.

At the present time there is much dissatisfaction expressed as to the working of the Jersey system, and it is likely to undergo important change. Guernsey is more quiet, and less objection is felt to the working of its constitution.

The States is, in some respects, a popular assembly. Its origin is doubtful, but it cannot be traced back beyond the middle ages. In Jersey it is composed of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bailiff, who presides, the twelve Jurats of the Royal Court, the Rectors of the twelve parishes, the Constables of the parishes, and fourteen elected persons called Deputies. The law officers of the crown, called Procureur-General, Avocat de la Reine, and Vicomte or Sheriff, possess seats but not votes. The jurisdiction of the Court is large. In Guernsey the States of Deliberation are composed of the Bailiff, who presides, the twelve Jurats, the eight Rectors, the Procureur, and the Deputies. There is also a much larger body called the Elective States, but it has little power.

In Jersey, the whole number of members is fifty-two. In Guernsey, it is only thirty-seven. In these the Lieutenant-Governor and the Sheriff (Prevôt) sit, but do not vote. They may, however, address the States. The main business of legislation is carried on in Jersey by the States. The Royal Court—which in Jersey is simply judicial—possesses a large amount of legislative power in Guernsey, and has also judicial functions.

It is a peculiar feature in the islands, that no member of the Royal Court (which consists of the bailiff and twelve magistrates—jurats—expressly elected) has, of necessity, enjoyed the advantage of a legal education. As this court is a judicial body, it is clear that the administration of law and justice is hardly sufficiently provided for. The court is divided into several smaller courts, taking different departments, and requiring only one, two, or three jurats as a quorum. An appeal lies to the full court. Very recently there has been a considerable modification of the criminal law in Jersey, and a magistrate has been appointed to preside in matters of police.

English Acts of Parliament, after registration, become laws of the islands.

The proceedings in the various courts are carried on in the French language (not the island patois). The pleadings are simple, and in criminal cases the forms of proceeding are assimilated to that of the English courts. The English language is sometimes used when one or both parties are English.

The laws of property in the islands are very peculiar, and the succession of property is strictly limited. The property of a parent must be divided according to a certain method—the eldest son taking the house. The father of a family cannot, even during life, give more than his legal portion to any one child. In the case of lands being sold, the lord of the manor can claim a right of pre-emption, and even after a sale has been

concluded with other parties, their right remains for a limited period.

Both natives and strangers are liable to arrest for debt contracted within the islands, and the mere declaration of any one assuming to be a creditor is sufficient proof; provided that, in the case of a stranger, the creditor shall have declared, *upon oath*, that the claim he prefers is a just one. A creditor can seize either the chattels or person of his debtor, but not both.

The tenure of land is very peculiar; and no one should undertake to purchase real property without sound professional advice. Leases are not binding if the lessee die or become insolvent.

In Ecclesiastical matters both Jersey and Guernsey are under the Bishop of Winchester, who comes over from time to time to confirm. There is little actual power vested in the Dean, who is in each island one of the Rectors, but he has usually a good deal of influence. There are Ecclesiastical Courts in each of the larger islands.

Visitors would do well to read the romance of *The Toilers of the Sea*, by Victor Hugo, for many years a resident in these islands. The book abounds in the most interesting descriptions of the scenery, and the customs of the people.

SKELETON TOURS.

The tourist will find it convenient to make Jersey and Guernsey successively his head-quarters, if he desires to see the Channel Islands properly. It is quite impossible to do justice to them in any other way. At Jersey he will be able in a few days, if necessary, to visit the most remarkable points, but weeks are required if he would exhaust the objects of interest. From Guernsey, Sark, Alderney, and Herm can be visited, and though the island of Guernsey is only half the size of Jersey, its bays are so much smaller, and the proportion of the coast that requires to be visited so much greater, that almost as much time is needed for that island as for the other. Sark is marvellous in its resources. Many tourists, making a day's excursion thither from Guernsey or Jersey, think they have seen it, and come away rather disappointed. Those who can devote a week or even a longer time to work out and examine its curiosities, will find every day filled up with excursions, each full of novelty and interest. Alderney is sooner seen, but has much to interest the traveller. The visitor whose time is limited may avail himself of the railway from St. Helier's to St. Aubin's on the west, and to Gorey on the east.

ONE WEEK'S TOUR.

First day.—JERSEY—St. Helier's, Elizabeth Castle, and Fort Regent. Drive to St. Aubin's and thence walk to St. Brelade's and the Corbiéres. Back to St. Helier's.

Second day.—JERSEY *continued*—Hougue Bie, Mont Orgeuil, Rozel Bay, Bouley Bay, and Bonne Nuit Bay. Return to St Helier's.

Third day.—JERSEY *continued*—St. Peter's Valley to Grève de Lecq, Plémont, L'Etac, and back.

Fourth day.—Proceed to GUERNSEY.—See St. Peter Port, the Harbour, and Castle Cornet. Drive to Fermain Bay and Moulin Huet, and thence to Petit Bot, and back to the town.

Fifth day.—GUERNSEY *continued.*—Pleinmont, Rocquaine, Lihou, Vazon, and Cobo. Then back to town.

Sixth day.—GUERNSEY *continued*—The Vale, L'Ancresse, Bordeaux Harbour and Druidical Remains, St. Sampson's, Ivy Castle, and back to town.

FORTNIGHT'S TOUR.

First day.—JERSEY—St. Helier's, Elizabeth Castle and Hermitage, Fort Regent, College grounds (for view), La Hougue Bie.

Second day.—JERSEY *continued*—Gorey by Pontac (St. Clement's Bay) and Grouville Church; Mont Orgeuil and St. Catherine's Bay; Rozel. The pedestrian might sleep at Rozel, but it would be more convenient to have a carriage in attendance at Trinity Church, and drive back to St. Helier's.

Third day.—JERSEY *continued*—Bonne Nuit, and the coast to the Grève-de-Lecq. Sleep at the Grève-de-Lecq.

Fourth day.—JERSEY *continued*—The coast to Plémont, and the caves and rocks at Plémont, and the Grève au Lançon. Grosnez, and the coast to L'Etac. Sleep at L'Etac.

Fifth day.—JERSEY *continued.*—St. Ouen's Bay to the Corbiéres, St. Brelade's Bay, and St. Aubin's Bay.

Sixth day.—Proceed to GUERNSEY.—See the town and har-

bour. Visit Les Terres, and the new walk under the Fort; thence walk to Fermain Bay, Jerbourg, Moulin Huet, and back to the town.

Seventh day.—GUERNSEY *continued*—Saint's Bay, Icart, Petit Bot, and the coast to Pleinmont. Sleep at Pleinmont, where there is a good inn.

Eighth day.—GUERNSEY *continued*—Rocquaine Bay, Lihou, L'Erée, Perelle, Vazon, and Cobo bays. Sleep at Munday's Hotel (comfortable accommodation).

Ninth day.—GUERNSEY *continued*—King's Mills and St. Saviour's, St. Peter's Valley, St. Andrew's, and the Catel. Return to the town.

Tenth day.—GUERNSEY *continued.*—L'Ancresse Common and Druidical remains, Bordeaux Harbour, the Vale Castle and Church, St. Sampson's and the Ivy Castle.

Eleventh and Twelfth days.—Serk, Alderney, and Herm, according to the weather, and the sailing of steamboats.

With longer time at disposal, the immediate neighbourhood of the larger towns, as well as the detached islands, will, of course, be seen to much greater advantage. The museum of Mr. Lukis in Guernsey should not be omitted.

COMPLETE TOUR.

(A MONTH TO SIX WEEKS, OR TWO MONTHS.)

JERSEY.—(1.) *St. Helier's* and neighbourhood, with excursions to Pontac and St. Clement's Bay, three or four days. (2.) *Gorey*, for Mont Orgeuil; the coast, as far as Bouley Bay; and perhaps Bonne Nuit. [Or Bonne Nuit might serve as a resting-place for one night for the surrounding scenery.] (3.) *Grève-de-Lecq*, for the coast from Sorel Point (La Houle), and Plémont. (4.) *L'Etac*, for the coast from Plémont thither; the Bay and Pond of St. Ouen, St. Ouen's Manor-house, etc. (5.) *St. Brelade's* or *St. Aubin's*, for the coast from the Corbiéres to Noirmont and the Quenvais. (6.) Rides and walks in the interior. Allowing for wet weather, about three weeks might well be occupied in this tour.

GUERNSEY.—St. Peter Port and the immediate neighbourhood. (1.) Walks in various directions. (2.) Driving and walk-

ing to Fermain, Jerbourg, Moulin Huet, Petit Port, and Saint's Bay, to Icart. (3.) Moye Point, the Gouffre, Corbiéres, and other headlands, to Pleinmont. (4.) St. Andrew's, St. Saviour's, King's Mills, and Câtel. (5.) L'Ancresse and St. Sampson's, and the neighbourhood. From Munday's Hotel the bays on the west coast may be seen in two or three days. About a fortnight would be required to see all these points. At least three days should be allowed for the town, and the numerous walks near the sea.

HERM.—A boat excursion from Guernsey. One day is usual, but two are better, sleeping on the isle. JETHOU would take another day. It is not safe to attempt to go to Herm or Jethou in doubtful or squally weather, or without a boatman perfectly familiar with the islands.

SERK.—It is quite impossible to see Serk thoroughly in less than a week, if the visitor means to examine the cliffs, small bays, and rocks. A fortnight or three weeks is not too much. BRECHOU takes one day; but it is necessary to watch carefully, and take advantage of the first weather that admits of a safe passage to and fro. It is not always possible to return from Serk in a sailing boat.

ALDERNEY.—Three or four days are enough for Alderney, including the journey out and home. With another day, the Casquets may be reached, provided the weather is favourable, but this is rarely the case.

CHAUSSEY ISLANDS.—These islands are best visited from Granville, with which town there is frequent communication from St. Helier's. One day is as much as most tourists would care to spend on the "Grande Isle," but the naturalist might desire more, as there is much matter of interest that would take some time to investigate.

COST OF LIVING, ETC.

The expense of a visit to the Channel Islands is moderate, even to tourists, compared with an English, Welsh, or Scotch trip, but there is less difference than formerly. For residents, the advantages are still considerable. As no dues are payable at Jersey on imports, the islands are untaxed, so far as strangers are concerned. The prices of tea, sugar, wine, spirits, and tobacco, are greatly below those charged for such articles in England, where they are subject to heavy excise dues. The owners of real property in the islands are required to pay a property-tax on all their possessions, whether in or out of the islands. Rent in the islands is moderate. Servants are difficult to find, and expect wages fully equal to those given in country places in England. Meat is good and cheap, the price being considerably lower than on the mainland. Butter is also good and cheap. The island cows are celebrated for their yield of milk, and it is certainly excellent as well as plentiful. Fish and shell-fish are abundant and cheap. Fruit and vegetables are generally both good and cheap, at least in comparison with town prices in England.

In Jersey, British coins are legal tender, and British currency is demanded in the hotels throughout the island. French coins are chiefly current in Guernsey, but there also the hotel charges are in British money. The local currency in all the islands

is inferior in value to British currency, so that when this is used there is a small advantage gained by the purchaser. The sovereign is worth about £1 : 0 : 10 currency in Guernsey, and £1 : 1 : 8 in Jersey. The Guernsey or Jersey and the French penny nearly correspond in value.

There is also an advantage in the island weights, the local pound being nearly two ounces heavier than avoirdupois. The gallon, on the other hand, is nearly half a pint smaller. On the whole, in buying by the pound, the price per English pound, English currency, is about 8½ per cent less than it would be if island money and weight corresponded with English, but most tradesmen have recently arranged to conduct their transactions in British currency, and to accept the British sovereign at its national value.

There is, in Guernsey, a convenient circulation of trustworthy one-pound notes, but it is wiser not to take them out of the island. In Jersey, great caution is needed in taking the local notes. The Guernsey currency passes in Serk. Alderney is chiefly British in its monetary arrangements.

JERSEY.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

For Landing Arrangements, Hotels, etc., see St. Helier's, page 41.

Latitude, 49° 15½′ to 49° 10′ N.; longitude, 2° 0¾′ to 2° 15½′ W. Length, 11 miles from east to west; breadth, about 5½ miles north to south. Area to low-water mark, nearly 45 square statute miles, or 28,717 acres (English). Area under cultivation, about 20,000 acres. Highest elevation above mean tide, about 300 feet. Population in 1871—Males, 24,875; females, 31,752; total, 56,627. Population increasing. Increase since 1861, 1014. Inhabited houses in 1871, 8,738. Chief town, ST. HELIER'S. Other towns, GOREY and ST. AUBIN'S. Parishes, St. Helier's, St. Saviour's, St. Martin's, Trinity, Grouville, St. Clement's, St. Lawrence's, St. Peter's, St. Brelade's, St. John's, St. Mary's, St. Ouen's.

JERSEY is a compact island of oblong form. The east coast is about sixteen miles west of the coast of Normandy. The south coast is about forty miles north of the coast of Brittany. The north coast is about forty-five miles south of Alderney. Large open bays, terminated by rocky headlands, characterise the east, south, and western shores, while the north coast is remarkable for bold and picturesque cliff scenery. A belt of elevated land from 250 to 300 feet high ranges from east to west on the north side of the island, sloping

somewhat gradually towards the south side. Several small streams intersect the land rather deeply, crossing the country nearly at right-angles to this belt. Smaller streamlets run into the sea by minute cascades on the north side.

Within the coast-line the land is rather flat, and towards the south, south-east, and west, parts of the coast consist of marshes or are covered by loose sand. The interior is well wooded, broken up into small enclosures and intersected in every direction by a network of roads, almost concealed by the overhanging branches of trees, planted in the hedges or fields adjoining.

Jersey is divided naturally into (1.) Table-land, generally cultivated to the edge. (2.) Sand-covered hills, generally barren. (3.) Sandy plains, with a very light soil, well-adapted to certain kinds of culture; and (4.) Valleys. The table-lands are broken by winding valleys, traversed by small streams of sufficient power to turn mills while descending, but generally losing themselves when they enter the plains. St. Peter's Valley is one of the prettiest, and this, with the valleys leading to the Grève de Lecq and the Mouriers, divide the island into two unequal halves. The Mill Brook occupies another valley, also very pleasing. It opens towards the south.

Some remarks have already been made concerning the climate of Jersey (see p. 14). Its temperature is somewhat more variable than that of Torquay, though much less so than that of Greenwich. The mean

annual temperature is nearly 51°. The annual rainfall, about 30½ inches; the number of days on which rain falls, 151. From October to January, both inclusive, is the wet season, October being the wettest month. February, April, and July are dry months. March and September, the months of the equinoxes, are comparatively dry. May, June, and August, are also dry, but rather wetter than March and September. Jersey is somewhat warmer in summer and colder in winter than Guernsey, and the sky is less clouded. It is generally deemed more relaxing than Guernsey, and less fitted to healthy persons of middle age than to young and old persons, and invalids.

Jersey enjoys a large trade, not only with France and England, but with Holland, India, and Newfoundland. The total number of craft belonging to the island is not far from 450, measuring upwards of 40,000 tons. Of these, the larger vessels are engaged in an important carrying trade in dried cod. The smaller craft are used for fishing and local traffic, and for general trading.

An infantry regiment of the line is stationed at Jersey, but the island is chiefly defended by its own militia. This includes a company of artillery and five regiments. Every male native of the island between sixteen and sixty-five is liable to serve. The total nominal strength amounts to about 10,000 men of all arms. The actual number under arms is 3000.

The language in common use in the town is English, but the inhabitants of the country parishes still

retain their peculiar patois. An example of this has been given in a previous page. The official language is modern French, but English is often substituted when one party in the suit is English.

The cutting of *vraic* or sea-weed is an institution both in Jersey and Guernsey. There are two vraic harvests, one in February and March, lasting five weeks, and again from June till August, lasting about ten weeks. During these periods the growing weed is cut, but the detached sea-weed may be carted at any time. It is chiefly used, either fresh or dried, for manuring the fields, and is very valuable for that purpose. The north-western coast, and the islands and rocks fringing that coast, are the chief sources of the supply. Of the two weeds, *Fucus* and *Laminaria*, commonly used for manure, the fucus contains more organic matter, and is therefore the more valuable, but the laminaria gives the most valuable ash. The fucus (*f. vesiculosus*) is sometimes called bladder-wrack.

The island is celebrated for its breed of cows, which are prettier and more valuable, than those of Guernsey and Alderney. The cows yield four to five gallons of milk per diem, increasing under peculiarly favourable circumstances to as much as eight gallons. They are milked three times a day. Jersey also exports largely grapes ripened under glass, the well-known Chaumontelle pears, and early potatoes. Nearly twenty tons of grapes reach Covent Garden every year from the island, and nearly 160,000 bushels of apples are sent away in favourable years. The export of pears is very important. Vege-

tables of all kinds grow to great perfection, but flowers and garden-produce, though abundant, are not so carefully attended to as the climate deserves. One of the curiosities of the island is the celebrated *cow-cabbage*, a gigantic variety of cabbage cultivated for the sake of the leaves, which are used to convey butter to the market. The stalk is often eight or ten feet long, and is made into walking-sticks, which may be purchased at St. Helier's.

There are frequent trains between St. Helier's and St. Aubin's, as also between St. Helier's and Gorey *via* St. Clement. There are also other regular conveyances, especially during the summer months, known as "excursion cars," which run during most of the year. The roads throughout Jersey are good.

The roads are of two kinds. The new are numerous, wide, and well-planned to intersect the island. They are in good condition. The old roads are winding, narrow, very intricate, and entirely shut out by hedges. Through many of these it would be impossible to drive, but they are perfect marvels of picturesque beauty.

MODE OF SEEING THE ISLAND.

An excellent means of obtaining a general view of the whole island is afforded by the excursion-cars which start every morning for different parts, returning in the afternoon. The cars remain at the most interesting places in the island a sufficient time to admit of there being leisurely inspected A different route may be

taken each day. The fare is 2s. 6d.. Carriages can be hired on very moderate terms at any of the livery-stables, and there are few points that cannot be reached on foot from the various villages and towns without more fatigue than is incidental to the nature of excursions. Among the principal livery-stables may be named the Alliance, New Street; the Percy, Rouge Bouillon; the Paragon, Grove Place; Down's, David Place and Apsley Road; Dunford's Imperial, Springfield Road; and Fauvel's, 35 Don Street.

We have already remarked that some time is necessary to form an acquaintance with even a moderate proportion of the interesting features of Jersey. To reach the most interesting points on the coast, the tourist needs a fortnight, even if accustomed to hard work. The interior also deserves several days. Merely to look at the principal points from a distance, a very few days will suffice, while to carry on natural history pursuits as many months would hardly be enough.

There are two modes in which the island can be seen. By the one method it will be sufficient to make St. Helier's one's head-quarters, whence a carriage could be taken day by day to some point on or near the coast, and from the halting-place short excursions on foot would enable the tourist to see everything of chief interest in a short time, and to great advantage. The smallness of the island renders a return in the evening a pleasant conclusion of the day's trip.

Should the tourist prefer it, however, he will find at various points, and at very convenient distances, houses

of entertainment amply sufficient for all purposes, and almost invariably clean and economical. In this way a pedestrian tour may be accomplished without difficulty. The objects that ought not to be omitted are the following:—Mont Orgeuil, Rozel, Bouley Bay, Bonne Nuit, Plémont and the Grêve au Lançon, L'Etac and St. Ouen's Bay, the Corbiéres, St. Brelade's, St. Aubin's, and the Hougue Bie or Prince's Tower. For all these, fine weather is indispensable. Detailed information concerning each will be found in the description of the island.

Money, Weights, and Measures.

In Jersey the weights and measures are peculiar, and need explanation. The current coins in circulation are English gold and silver pieces, and the States have recently issued copper coins of the same value as those of the realm. In the old Jersey currency the English shilling was worth thirteen pence, so that there were 260 pence, or £1 : 1 : 8 Jersey currency to the English pound sterling. The pound of Jersey currency was worth 18s. 5½d. sterling, nearly. The tourist would do well to prefer sovereigns to the local bank-notes in circulation, as these are troublesome to negotiate outside the island.

The standard of weight in Jersey is the old French standard pound of Charlemagne. This pound contained 7560 grains, or 1 lb. 1¼ oz. 14 gr. One hundred pounds are equivalent to 108 lbs. avoirdupois. For common purposes, 13 Jersey pounds equal 14 lbs. avoirdupois or 25 Jersey equal 27 avoirdupois. The smaller divisions of the pound are as in England; but the old French *gros*, or half quarter ounce, and its half the *demi-gros*, are recognised.

For certain purposes of square measurement, the Jersey computation is very peculiar, the square foot being 20¼ sq. ft. English measurement. In glazier's work, the square foot measures 64 sq. inches English.

For measuring land, the perch is an area of 22 English feet square, or 48·4 sq. ft. Forty perches make a *vergée* (the island acre), containing 2150 square yards (English), or less than half an English acre. Two and a quarter vergées are about equivalent to an English acre.

The Jersey wine gallon contains 247 cubic inches (English), nearly. The Jersey quart thus nearly corresponds to the French litre, being little more than one and a-half English pints.

The general measure of dry goods is the *cabot*, or half-bushel, containing 1204·3 cubic inches (about 4½ imp. gallons). The cabot is divided into five gallons. A larger cabot is used for barley, oats, potatoes, etc., containing 1605·7 cubic inches.

Principal Cab-Stands.

Bereford Street; Halkett Place; Broad Street; Weighbridge Pier.

Cab Fares—Not exceeding one mile, 1s.; each additional mile or fraction of a mile, 6d.; from harbour to outskirts of town, 2s. 6d.

Distances from the Royal Square to the undermentioned places, authorised by the Lieutenant-Governor.

	Miles.		Miles.
St. Clement's Church	2½	Bouley Bay	4½
Grouville Church	2½	St. Peter's Church	4½
Gorey	4	St. Ouen's Church	6
Mont Orgueil Castle	4½	St. Lawrence's Church	3
St. Saviour's Church	1	St. John's Church	5½
St. Martin's Church	3½	St. Mary's Church	5½
Rozel Barracks	5½	St. Brelade's Church	5½
Trinity Church	3½	St. Aubin's Harbour	3½

IF TAKEN BY THE HOUR.

For the first hour, 2s. 6d.; for each half-hour, 1s.
100 lbs. luggage allowed.

Railways.

1. THE JERSEY RAILWAY.—*Terminus* near the Weigh-bridge at St. Helier's, with *Stations* at Cheapside, the First Tower, Millbrook, Bel Royal, and Beaumont, proceeding round the Bay to St. Aubin's.

2. THE JERSEY EASTERN RAILWAY.—*Terminus* at Snow Hill, with *Stations* at George Town, Samurez, Le Hocq, Pontac, La Rocque, Les Marais, Grouville, and Gorey.

The *hours* and *fares* are advertised in the local papers, and exhibited on the Companies' Time Tables.

ST. HELIER'S.

Population (1871)—Males, 13,128; females, 17,628; total, 30,756. *Inhabited Houses* (1871), 4591.

Distances.—From St. Peter Port, Guernsey, 21 miles; Southampton, 120 miles; Weymouth, 85; Dartmouth, 108; Littlehampton, 155; London by the Thames, 300; St. Malo, 42; Granville, 32 miles.

Landing Arrangements.—The steamboats usually enter the harbour before discharging their passengers. At very low tides the landing is effected in small boats. Licensed porters await the arrival of the steamers, and carry luggage to the cabs and omnibuses. The cab fare is 1s. 6d. to any part of the town; omnibus fare 6d. each; porters charge 6d.

Hotels.—Near the pier, the Royal Yacht Club; the Royal, Pier Road; Brooks's, 14 Esplanade; the Southampton, on Pier, are among the principal.

Of French hotels, there is the Pomme d'Or, in Wharf Street, with good table d'hôte, and the de l'Europe, Mulcaster Street, opposite parish church. The York and Union, of less pretensions, are in the Royal Square; the British is in Broad Street.

On the Esplanade there is the Marine Hotel, with excellent baths. Near it is Minors.

In Bath Street, the Stopford Hotel (Bree's Boarding-House).

The Imperial is a large joint-stock hotel, just outside the town, on the St. Saviour's Road, with extensive grounds, well situated and provided with all modern appliances.

Boarding-Houses.—These are numerous, and some are very good, clean and comfortable, and moderate. Board and lodging, without private sitting-room and without wine, costs about 6s. 6d. per day at the principal boarding-houses, and less at some of the others. At the hotels the expense of ordinary living need not exceed 9s. 6d. per day. Board and lodging may be had at many respectable houses at from 35s. to 45s. per week, all charges included. The choice is so varied that the tourist who contemplates a stay may easily find suitable accommodation.

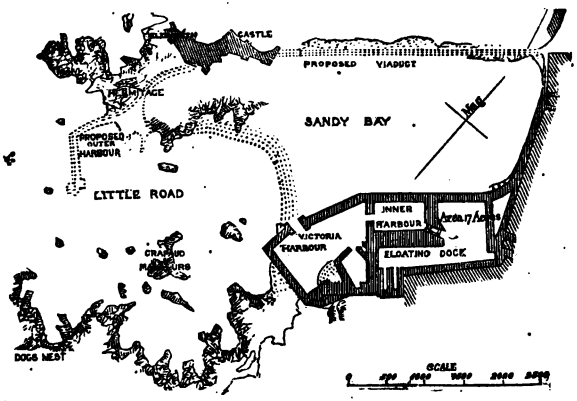
Lodgings abound in several of the principal streets; but during the season they are almost all taken. It is impossible to specify terms, but on the whole they are reasonable and good. For the winter, favourable arrangements may be made.

Skating Rinks.—The Victoria, and the Imperial, Stafford Road.

St Helier's must be entered by the stranger from the harbour, which is extensive, and has contributed greatly to the commercial prosperity of the island. The works, however, are not yet so complete as to enable steamers to enter at all times of the tide.

There are both outer and inner harbours, and a large floating-dock of 17 acres is proposed to be constructed as shown in the annexed plan.

The entrance to the town from the pier creates rather an unfavourable impression, as it is necessary to pass through some narrow streets to reach the Royal Square. Here is situated the "Cohue" or Court-House, where the law-courts are held. The



PLAN OF THE HARBOUR OF ST. HELIER'S.

great hall contains portraits of George III. and General Conway, and a painting representing the death of Major Pierson at the battle of Jersey, January 6, 1781—a copy from the original by Sir David Copley. But the most interesting relic is a silver gilt mace, presented to the bailiff and Jurats by Charles II. on his restoration to the throne, in token of his appreciation of the island's fidelity to his father and himself. The same square also contains the public library, two of the principal hotels (the Union and the York). Clean and well-paved streets, lined with neat houses, and well-shaped shops, ramify from this square in all directions, and in its neighbourhood are also the fine new markets, and the Albert Hall, the chief building for concerts and balls. The shops and markets are

well supplied, and the markets especially are spacious and well arranged. They are open daily.

There are many churches in St. Helier's; the principal of which is the parish church, near the Royal Square. This is an ancient building which has been lately completely renovated and adorned with painted glass. It is built in the early pointed Gothic style, and dates from the year 1341. (Service on Sundays, in the French language, at 11 o'clock in the morning, at 7 o'clock in the evening, and at 3 in the afternoon in English. Garrison service at 9 o'clock in the morning) St. Mark's Chapel, David Place, is one of the most fashionable Episcopal churches in St. Helier's, of which there are several. There are two Roman Catholic chapels, and every shade of dissenting opinion is represented.

Victoria College was first opened for instruction in 1852. It is an educational institution of the nature of the collegiate schools recently founded in many parts of England. The building is handsome and well placed, overlooking the town on the eastern side. It is surrounded with public walks and terraces, and the view from it is charming. The principal is a clergyman of the Church of England, who is assisted by a staff of eleven professors.

To the east of the harbour rises a steep and lofty ridge of granite on which is Fort Regent, an interesting modern fortress commenced in 1806, and completed in 1815 at a cost of £1,000,000 sterling. It is accesible to visitors, and the views from it are very fine.

Elizabeth Castle is an old and now useless fortress, built on the rocks to the west of the harbour. It is detached at high water, but connected by a causeway about a mile in length, laid bare at half-tide. The castle was constructed in the present state in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, on the ruins of an old abbey on the same spot, founded in the twelfth century. It is much larger and more capacious than could be supposed from its external appearance, and during the Commonwealth held out against the Parliamentarians for more than six weeks.* Nearly adjacent, though on a detached rock, is a ruin called the Hermitage, certainly of very ancient date. It is constructed of small stones, of very rude masonry, and, according to tradition, was once tenanted by St. Helier, who was murdered here by Norman pirates. It has been repaired, and is worth a visit.

The public library of St. Helier's is a plain brick building in Library Place, near the Royal Square.

A telegraphic cable, laid between Jersey and Portland in 1858, broke in 1861; another was laid in 1869 between Fliquet Bay and Pirou, in Normandy; and a third, now under the Post Office authorities, was completed in 1870. Messages may now be sent by telegraph to any part of England or the Continent.

There are several clubs in St. Helier's, of which the principal are—the Victoria, in Beresford Street; the United Club in Royal Square; the Liberty Club, in Bond Street, and the Cæsarean Archery and Croquet Club. The Agricultural and Horticultural Society is

* Charles II. resided here on one of his visits to Jersey.

well conducted and very useful. There are several banks, including a savings' bank on the old system, with a penny bank attached, and a post-office savings' bank.

Several English as well as French newspapers are published in Jersey. Belonging to the former are the "Jersey Observer," thrice a week, the "British Press," the "Independent," and the "Evening Express;" and to the latter, the "Chronique de Jersey," "Le Constitutionnel," and "La Nouvelle Chronique."

Besides the Victoria College the number of schools is very large. There are 26 boys' and 32 girls' schools. In the country schools the French language is taught with the English, but in the town the English tongue prevails.

Besides the buildings and institutions already mentioned, there are in St. Helier's a hospital, combining an infirmary, a poor-house, and a temporary refuge for the homeless. The building is large and well situated, with ample space around. Not far from the hospital is the gaol, a large building, constructed of granite, at a cost of about £19,000. In Grouville Parish, a splendid building has been erected, at a cost of about £20,000, for a Lunatic Asylum, into which patients are admitted from foreign parts.

At the present time there are no antiquities in or very near St. Helier's, except the Hermitage and the old castle. So lately as in the year 1785 a magnificent Druidical temple, of large proportions and unusually perfect, crowned the hill then called the Mont de la Ville, on which Fort Regent now stands. It was re-

moved to admit of the construction of the fort, and transplanted to England, where it was erected in the park of Marshall Conway in Berkshire. This cromlech has been covered with a tumulus.*

Another building, a chapel, much more modern, though belonging to the middle ages, and dedicated to "Notre Dame Des Pas," or our lady of the steps, was also removed to make way for the works of the fort.

On the cliff below the fort, looking towards St. Aubin's Bay, the geologist may see a very good section laid bare by the road-cutting. It presents clear indication of an ancient beach, with large rolled pebbles many yards above the present highest level of high water.

To the north of St. Helier's are two beautiful valleys, the Val des Vaux, and the Grand Val, which afford beautiful walks full of interest to the botanist. Many rare plants may be found both on the hills and in the valleys, and on the salt marshes adjacent.

Immediately round the town there is hardly so much of interest for the marine zoologist, as in some of the rocky bays. Still St. Clement's Bay will afford ample scope for the careful observer, and the microscope will be found a never-ceasing sourse of rational amusement.

There is much English society in St. Helier's, which

* A model of this cromlech is preserved in the Fitzwilliam Museum, in the University of Cambridge. It must have been one of the finest and most perfect of the smaller constructions of this kind laid bare in modern times.

is largely composed of retired officers of the two services, and their families.

The best general views of the town and bay are obtained from Fort Regent and from the College grounds. The College is reached from Royal Square by way of Queen Street. The grounds include terraced walks, and much variety as well as beauty is obtained by the winding of these walks on the steep face of the hill crowned by the building. The view from Fort Regent is hardly inferior.

EXCURSIONS FROM ST. HELIER'S.

The following places are arranged in alphabetical order, for the convenience of Tourists:—

ANNE PORT.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 5 miles N.E.)

A small port and harbour close to Mont Orgeuil, and a little to the north of the headland on which the castle is built. At this point the picturesque and rocky cliff-scenery of the northern part of Jersey may be said to commence, and this little bay—the smallest round the island—contrasts singularly with the larger but flat bay of Grouville. Behind it, at a short distance, is a Druidical monument, one of the best now remaining in Jersey. It is composed of nine stones supporting a flat stone. All are of granite, and the flat stone measures fifteen feet in length, ten in breadth, and about three in thickness. It is estimated to weigh twenty tons. Beneath it, some years ago, some pottery and bones were found, besides flint implements. In stone coffins under this cromlech were three skeletons, two males and a female. They were without heads, but belonged to a small race.

This cromlech is in an enclosed field, but is easily found. It is well worthy of examination. Anne Port is not far from Gorey. (See MONT ORGEUIL and GOREY.)

ARCHIRONDELLE TOWER.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 5½ miles N.E.)

A small tower picturesquely placed at the southern point of St. Catherine's Bay, on a detached boss of syenite, near a curious cherty mass to the south, forming the adjacent headland of La Crête. A breakwater has been commenced by government near this rock, originally intended to meet another commencing at Verclut Point, and enclose the harbour. It is not likely to be continued.

BEAU PORT.

(Distance from St. Aubin's, about 2 miles W. by S.)

Turning off from the carriage road to the Corbiéres, a little before reaching the sixth mile-stone from St. Helier's, a path will be found which leads to within a hundred yards of a curious natural recess in the cliff bearing this name. Within an area of a few acres there are several pinnacles and needles of rock, of various sizes and proportions—noble, rugged, and picturesque masses projecting into the sea, and huge fallen fragments forming caverns, with entrances like those to Egyptian temples. There are few things in Jersey better worth seeing by those who admire savage rocky grandeur, such as Salvator Rosa might have loved to paint.

BONNE NUIT

(Distance from St. Helier's, 5½ miles N. by W.)

A bay, or rather part of a bay, near the middle of the north side of the island, separated only from

Giffard's Bay by a low reef of rocks running out to a point. The whole of the beach in this part of the island is of rounded pebbles, but the cliffs behind are generally composed of great thicknesses of angular blocks, fallen from above and much decomposed, covered by good vegetable soil, and a thick coat of green even in winter. In Giffard's Bay there is a small stream winding through a very deep gorge, which has been eaten out by the water, but is absolutely choked with vegetation. Bonne Nuit is bare, especially in the upper part, where the rocks jut out from the stone-covered surface in a number of fanciful forms. The descent to Bonne Nuit from the picturesque granite quarries of Mont Mado immediately behind, is very beautiful, and includes a rich variety of rock and water scenery, with reefs of rock running out into the sea at a short distance.

The geologist will find in Bonne Nuit harbour a curious group of chert and hornstones, passing, in Giffard's Bay, into an exceedingly hard quartzy conglomerate, penetrated by greenstone veins. This conglomerate is quite distinct from that on the side of Bouley Bay.

BOULEY BAY.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 4½ miles N.;
Easily reached from Trinity, to which there is an Omnibus. See page 85.

A fine bay on the north coast enclosed between two projecting and bold headlands, called respectively La Tour and Vicart. The bay itself is two miles across, and recedes fully one mile. On the side to the east

are numerous broken, rocky headlands, projecting into the sea. The cliffs are high and rise gradually towards the west, where they are at least 250 feet above the sea, but they are not remarkable for picturesque beauty. Vicart, the headland that encloses the bay to the west, is bold and bluff, and from it as well as from La Tour a good idea is obtained of the coast-line. The reef of islands and rocks called the Dirouilles and Ecrehou are opposite the bay, and they are seen at low water as a reef. At high water the rocks are detached and large. In clear weather the French coast is very visible from the cliff, and at all times there is a very fine view from the high ground behind the bay. The direct road from St. Helier's runs past Trinity Church, but from that point there is only a country road to the bay.

There is good anchorage in Bouley Bay, and only a few dangerous rocks, all of which might be removed. The channel is open, the water gradually shoaling from thirty to twenty fathoms, and then more gradually to fifteen. There is at least six fathoms of water everywhere in the bay quite close to the land, except in the three or four cases where the rocks come near the surface. It was at one time proposed to continue a small breakwater already commenced, and form here a harbour of refuge, but the plan has been abandoned.

The cliffs enclosing Bouley Bay are everywhere high and steep, but they are almost without exception clothed with verdure even in mid-winter. They are too vertical close to the sea to allow of a descent in

many places; but it is possible, though not very pleasant, to follow a sheep-path about half way down the cliff, which will enable the pedestrian to pass completely round every part. The road descent to Bouley Bay is by a steep zig-zag, opening out numerous fine views from the Jardin d'Olivet, where there is a prominent but ugly building. Immediately beyond Vicart, the western extremity of Bouley Bay, is a small harbour and a little fishing station, behind which the cliff rises rapidly and forms a bold bluff headland. There is here a pretty coomb, or semi-circular depression of the surface, communicating with the interior, but the hills are bare and rather monotonous.

CORBIERES.

(Distance from St. Helier's, about 7 miles W.)

A group of very grand and picturesque rocks jutting out into the sea, with extreme boldness, from the south-western extremity of the island. The rocks are the haunt of the cormorant or sea raven (corbiére), whence the name. They form the southern termination of St. Ouen's Bay, and are close to the course of the steamers coming from Guernsey to St. Helier's.

The rocks are detached at high water, but a broad causeway of boulders and jagged ends of granite connects them with Jersey during a large part of each tide. Their varied and broken outline, whether seen from the sea or the neighbouring shore, is always in the highest degree picturesque. They rise in majestic grandeur, forming a bold extremity to the island in this

direction, and they group well with the rocky coast adjacent. It is not difficult or dangerous, though rather tedious, to reach the rocks on foot at low water.

One of the mail steamers was wrecked a few years ago in attempting to pass between some of these rocks. To prevent similar accidents, the States have erected a lighthouse on one of the rocks of the Corbières.

COUPE.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 6¾ miles N.E.)

A curious and nearly detached headland terminating towards the north the bay called Fliquet Bay on the east coast. The Coupe is the extreme north-easterly point of Jersey. Its altitude is not remarkable, and the neck that connects it with the main island is neither very narrow nor very deeply cut, nor are the sides precipitous. It is interesting however to the geologist as corresponding to similar nearly detached headlands in Guernsey and Sark, and is worth a visit if the tourist is not hurried. A little to the N.W. of Coupe is

COUPERON.

Distance from Helier's, 5½ miles N. by E.)

A headland something like the Coupe, terminating to the north the little bay called Saie harbour, and to the south one side of an exquisite little gully called the Douet de la Mer. Rozel Bay immediately succeeds. There are Druidical remains near the headland. See SAIE HARBOUR, page 75, and ROZEL BAY, page 74.

CRABBÉ.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 7 miles N.W.)

A deep funnel-shaped gorge running far back into the land, near and on the east side of the Grève de Lecq, on the north-east. There is access to it by a steep path, and the appearance of the naked vertical walls of granite and frowning jagged precipices, enclosing a little cave below, is wonderfully grand. Two or three other similar but rather smaller inlets and gorges may be discovered by a little investigation not far off. (See GREVE DE LECQ.) The tourist may experience some difficulty in reaching this point, but it ought not to be omitted if time allows. See page 61 and map.

LA CRETE POINT.

A headland of considerable grandeur and somewhat lofty, separating Anne Port from St. Catherine's Bay. The rock is chert, almost columnar, and jointed very regularly. The chert projects from the soil, broken into irregular forms, and the intervals between these naked jagged masses are filled with furze and the prickly leaved plant called Butcher's broom. (See ST. CATHERINE'S BAY, page 78 and map). This is a point of special geological interest.

DIROUILLES AND ECREHOU ROCKS.

A group of rocks about four miles north of the north coast of Jersey nearly opposite Bouley Bay. They are

several in number and dangerous to navigation, but there is a fair channel between them and Jersey. The area occupied by the shoals and rocks included under these names is not less than 16 square miles. Some of the Ecrehou rocks are of large size. They are not now inhabited, but there is some vegetable soil on them, and there are ruins on the largest, said to be those of an old chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary. There was here a priory of the abbey of Val Richer, near Lisieux in Normandy. (See BOULEY BAY.)

ELIZABETH CASTLE. (See ST. HELIER'S.)

ETAC OR L'ETAC.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 8 miles W. by N.)

Under various names—derived no doubt from the French *le Tas*, a heap—there are prominent detached masses of rock in most of the Channel Islands. In Jersey, one of these on the west coast, forming the northern horn of the great Bay of St. Ouen, is called l'Etac. Its shape is pyramidal, and seen at a distance it resembles a pile of stones. On a nearer approach the true character of the rock is seen.

Few single rocks on the coast of Jersey are more picturesque than this pyramid, and there is a small village near the foot much resorted to from St. Helier's for pic-nics. There is good accommodation at two Hotels, from whence the tourist may visit some of the best points on the coast, including La Pule, another singular pinnacle of rock (see page 73.) The northern part of

St. Ouen's Bay and the pond may also be included. There is a direct road to l'Etac from St Helier's, and there are hotels at the village.

FLIQUET BAY.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 5½ miles N.E.)

This is the last bay on the east side of the island towards the north. It is separated from St. Catherine's Bay by the headland of Verclut point and the breakwater. It is a pretty little bay with a martello tower and a few houses on its shores. The northern extremity is *La Coupe*, which see. Fliquet Bay has a pebble beach, a phenomenon somewhat rare round the coast of Jersey. The vegetation comes down to the water's edge, and sands here and there cover the pebbles. At intervals the hard rock peeps through. The cliffs fall back, and are not high.

GIFFARD'S BAY.

The name given to the eastern part of Bonne Nuit Bay. The rock here consists of a peculiar conglomerate, penetrated by basaltic dykes. It will repay examination. (See BONNE NUIT and MONT MADO.)

GOREY OR GOURAY.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 4½ miles E.N.E.)
British Hotel; Hotel de France.

A fishing village and small harbour at the northern extremity of Grouville Bay, close to a fine headland, on which frowns the ivy-mantled castle of Mont Orgeuil (see page 67). The village consists of a well built street,

extending from the beach to Grouville. Either of the Hotels afford excellent quarters for the pedestrian desirous of investigating thoroughly the eastern and north-eastern parts of the island. Lodgings may be had at Gorey, and it is much visited in summer.

Gorey was at one time noted for its oyster-fisheries, but the beds have become unproductive and the trade is now insignificant. The oyster-ground lies towards France, but the Jersey boats are not allowed to fish within three miles of the French shore. Besides the boats belonging to Jersey, many others came from the southern coasts of England, and the quantity of oysters fished was very large, employing some 400 cutter-rigged vessels and upwards of 2000 men, besides a number of women and children. The average annual yield amounts to nearly 300,000 bushels. From the Castle battlements, the beautiful spires of Coutances Cathedral, in Normandy, are, in clear weather, distinctly visible to the naked eye.

To reach Gorey from St. Helier's the visitor has a choice of routes.—There are omnibus and rail at frequent intervals. There are also carriages for hire, and, with a hired conveyance, the tourist may strike into the interior on leaving the town, rising at once and proceeding in a direct line, passing St. Saviour's Church and La Hougue Bie. Another road passes Samarez Manor, and then following the south coast by Pontac, conducts along the shores of St. Clement's and Grouville Bays. One road should be selected to go and the other

to return. Both are very beautiful. A third road passes Grouville Church and Longueville Manor-house.

The objects of interest in the neighbourhood, include Mont Orgeuil (see page 67), Anne Port, and the cromlech behind it (see page 49), Grouville Bay to the south (see page 63), and St. Catherine's Harbour (see page 78). To the geologist, the conglomerate in the latter bay, and the cherts and quartzites that intervene between the syenite of Anne Port and the conglomerate, are extremely interesting.

GREVE D' AZETTE. (See SAMAREZ BAY.)

GREVE AU LANÇON.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 9 miles W.N.W.)

A remarkable bay on the north-western extremity of the island between Plemont Point and Cape Grosnez. It is the furthest of the bays from St. Helier's, and the best worth visiting, and no one can be said to be acquainted with the coast-scenery of Jersey without spending some time in penetrating its numerous caves and recesses. It is not a large bay, the distance across being less than three-quarters of a mile. Its shape is semicircular. It is comparatively easy of access by a path on the slope of Plemont Point, continued by steps on the granite. Elsewhere it is shut in by precipitous cliffs of considerable elevation. At one point, where the cliff is somewhat less lofty than elsewhere, a small

stream of water, coming from the interior, falls over a wall of rock about fifty feet high into a nest of caverns.

The great peculiarity of the Grève au Lançon is the succession of caverns and narrow fiords, alternating with rocky reefs projecting for some distance into the sea. These are continued beyond the lowest tide, reaching indeed to the extremity of Grosnez, under which is a cave. The number of caverns it is difficult to estimate. Six may be visited in succession at all times except near high-water—some are connected by low natural vaults, but most of them are detached. The height in the interior of the caverns varies, rarely exceeding 20 feet. The floors of these caves are strewn with a curious mixture of blocks of white granite and large perfectly rounded pebbles, while the walls are of pink and dark grey granite. Small cascades and pinnacles of rock, and occasional wide expanses of smooth white sand, complete the scene.

The telegraph wire from Guernsey was carried over this part of the Jersey coast, but it lasted only a short time in a state to transmit messages.

The Grève au Lançon is so called from the number of sand-eels sometimes taken there. These fishes are called *lançon* both in Jersey and Guernsey. The bay is best reached from the Grève de Lecq where there is a comfortable hotel. The walk along the coast is very fine, passing more than one deep hollow and narrow gorge before Plemont is reached. Although the distance from the Grève de Lecq does not appear to be two miles, a day may well be occupied in a trip to and

from this bay, penetrating the recesses of the caverns, and working along the cliff and the promontory of Grosnez. Eastward from Grève au Lançon is

GRÈVE DE LECQ.

(Hotel—distance from St. Helier's, about 7½ miles W.N.W.)

A well-known sandy bay, reached by two good roads, and provided with good hotel accommodation. It is well adapted as a resting-place for those tourists who would enjoy and understand the magnificent cliff and cavern scenery of the north-western part of Jersey. One road descends from St. Mary's Church. It is extremely pretty at all seasons, and is richly wooded with many varieties of trees. The other descends from St. Ouen's Manor-house. It is even more picturesque, but the road is not so good for carriages.

From the Grève de Lecq rises the Castel de Lecq, distinguished by a flagstaff. From this commanding position we obtain a view of the profound abysses walled in by steep cliffs, into which the ocean rushes with continual foaming and dashing sound. To the east is the gulf of Crabbe (see page 55); to the west the Grève de Lecq, and beyond it Plemont Point, the east extremity of the Grève au Lançon (see page 39). Beyond, in the Bay, are the Paternosters or Pierres de Lecq (see page 71), and a rough path descends a gully, in which is a pretty waterfall and a small cavern overhung with ferns.

Further on to the west are other similar gullies, and

one remarkably deep narrow fiord with lofty vertical walls of granite. A stream tumbles down precipitately from the head of the fiord for a hundred feet to a shingle beach. The beautiful lanes about the Grève de Lecq abound in fine ferns.

GROSNEZ, POINT OR CAPE.

(Distance from St. Helier's, about 9½ miles W.N.W.)

RUINED ARCH AT GROSNEZ, JERSEY.

This headland, with Plemont—the two extremities of the Grève au Lançon—form the north-western extremity of Jersey. Deep inlets, faced with precipitous granite cliffs, the abode of sea-fowl, nearly cut off this headland from the rest of the island, and they ought to be approached with great caution (see page 59, and north-western extremity of map.) The scene around is wonderfully grand and wild in the extreme. A picturesque ruined arch marks the headland, and a

little in front of it are seen distinctly Sark, Herm, Jethou, and Guernsey in regular order, and apart by itself the coast of France. The inlets are floored with gigantic blocks of granite, some angular and some rounded.

GROUVILLE (Church and Harbour).

(Distance of the Harbour from St. Helier's, 4 miles E.)

A large open bay on the south-east of Jersey, reaching from the south-eastern extremity of the island to Mont Orgeuil, is known as Grouville Bay or Harbour. The village of Grouville occupies both sides of the road from St. Helier's to Gorey, and as the houses of both have gone on extending towards each other they may be said to form near one large village. The shores of the bay are low and composed of loose sand-hills constantly blowing over them and preventing cultivation. The views of Mont Orgeuil to the north, and Rock Point to the south, are always pleasing. There are five martello towers and a small fort on the shores of the bay.

On the neighbouring common the Grouville races are run. The railway to Gorey passes Orgeuil Castle, and goes close to both the course and the town.

The geologist will see with some surprise in Grouville Bay a large number of chalk flints mixed with the other beach pebbles. The number is so large as

not to admit of any such explanation as that they have been accidentally conveyed thither as ballast.

There are points of considerable interest to the botanist in the sands of Grouville Bay.

HERMITAGE. (See ST. HELIER'S.)

HOUGUE BIE OR PRINCE'S TOWER.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 2½ miles N.E.)

One of the favourite points of view in Jersey. It is a tower on a low artificial hill,* from which a large part of the island and some of its peculiar beauties may be seen. The tower is modern and not remarkable. It is built on a tumulus, probably of great antiquity. Up this hill a path winds through gigantic hydrangeas,† fuchsias, and other flowering plants and shrubs. The position of the tower is about the middle of the eastern part of the island, and it may be visited either on the way to Mont Orgeuil or Bouley Bay. From the summit of the tower the view is very pleasing. On three sides the sea is seen, and the numerous rocks that bristle up round the island form a curious fringe to the green clothing of its surface. The breaking up of the surface into hills, and the numerous little valleys and gorges that help so much to render the island beauti-

* There are several low hills in Jersey locally called *Hougues*. They are for the most part of artificial origin, and some of them are very ancient and cover cromlechs.

† Throughout the Channel Islands the hydrangea blooms of a delicate blue colour, and grows to a very large size.

ful are hardly perceived, but the eye rests on a rich alternation of wooded and cultivated patches, which towards the west form a fine horizon. Towards the north is seen the fringe of islands beyond the coast known as the Dirouilles, and to the south and south-east the line of the French coast is seen. All the curves of the bays from St. Catherine's, round by Grouville and St. Clement's, to St. Aubin's Bay, and as far as Noirmont Point, are easily made out.

During the middle ages there was a chapel* on the Hougue Bie, and a legend concerning the place possesses some interest, owing to the great rarity of legendary lore in the Channel Islands generally. The legend tells that once on a time there was a great serpent in Jersey that was very mischievous. The lord of Hambey alone ventured to attack this pest, but he succeeded and cut off the monster's head. Afterwards the knight fell asleep, and his squire finding him there, slew his master, and boasted that he himself had killed the serpent. Giving this lying account, and adding that the dying master had sent a message to that effect, the lady of the knight was induced to marry this squire. The truth came out in a disturbed dream, and the squire was executed. The disconsolate widow raised a monument in a conspicuous place, "quem nunc *Hogam Hambeyam* alias *Hagam Byam* vocitant." The monkish legend adds, "*Hoga* est pyramis obtusa e terrâ cujus modi Galli vocant *mont joyes*."

* Some indications of the old chapel may still be found, among which a curious old font is worth a visit from the antiquary.

The ruins of the old chapel erected on the mound were converted into a tower at the end of the last century. It is 100 feet in height.

LA HOULE.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 7 miles N.W.)

A grand ocean-pool nearly surrounded by high precipitous cliffs, situated just beyond Sorel Point, the northernmost headland of Jersey. The word alludes to the disturbed condition of the water in the pool (*mer houleuse*, a stormy sea). La Houle may be visited from the Grève de Lecq, after seeing Crabbe and the Mouriers waterfall.

LES LANDES.

A singular high table-land in the north-western part of Jersey, between Cape Grosnez and St. Ouen's Bay, crossed in proceeding from Grosnez Point to the Pinnacle Rock (la Pule, p. 73) and l'Etac, p. 56. It is covered with tufts of heather and furze, and intersected by a ditch or canal. There is no great thickness of soil, and some parts of it are marshy.

MILLBROOK.

One of the prettiest streams in Jersey gives its name to the village which forms the western suburb of St. Helier's on the coast. Just beyond the most western houses of Millbrook, on the roadside, is Belmont, a humble-looking house, where Charles II. is said to have concealed himself. The next village is Beaumont, after passing which we reach St. Aubin's, see page 75. On the

heights above Belmont are some of the largest vineries in the island.

MONT MADO.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 5 miles N. by W.)

This name is given to some quarries of pink syenite behind Bonne-Nuit Harbour, in the northern part of the island. The rock quarried consists of a vein about a hundred feet wide, with very rotten granite walls. The vein runs north and south, and is crossed by magnificent joints or backs. Large blocks can be obtained, but the quantity of good stone is very limited. The stone is hard and tough, and works well, with very little waste. There is a fair local demand, but little is exported. The quarries are worth visiting, as the scenery around is pretty and richly wooded. Numerous quarries of similar stone are worked at various points on the coast adjacent. They are always picturesque, and often afford fine views of the precipitous cliffs adjacent. See N. of Map.

MONT ORGEUIL.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 4¼ miles N.E. by E. Reached by railway from St. Helier's to Gorey, where there are hotels.)

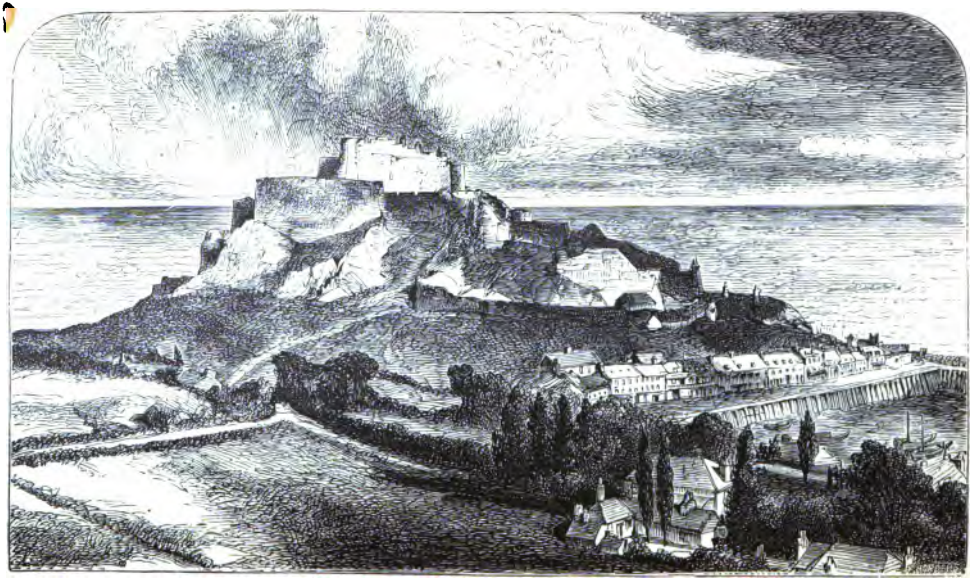
This interesting and picturesque ruin stands on a projecting headland of granitic rock that separates Grouville Bay from a small cove adjoining it to the north. The cove is shut in by bold cliffs, and jagged pinnacles of rock that rise abruptly from the sea.

The position of Mont Orgeuil is certainly very fine, and the effect in its present state is satisfactory. It is

solid, massive, and imposing, and harmonises well with the surrounding scenery. From its approaches, from the various terraces, and from the windows, are brought successively into view the open bay to the south, including the harbour of Gorey, with its fleet of oyster-boats, and the harbour of St. Catherine's, with the wooded interior of the island. On the distant horizon the white shores of Normandy and the cathedral spire of Coutances are distinctly visible when the sky is tolerably clear. This castle is the commanding object of the east coast of the island, and occupies the central point of that coast. Seen at a distance, it is a grand mass of building, but it hardly repays close examination. The remains of its last occupation, and the marks of adaptation for barrack purposes, interfere with the historical as well as the picturesque impressions.

It was chiefly during the Great Rebellion, and while serving as the prison of the Parliament party on the retreat of Charles II., that this castle obtained its importance. Parts of it are believed to be Roman, and to have been constructed by Julius Cæsar; but this is doubtful.

The position of the castle is strong, as well as picturesque. It is surrounded on three sides by the sea, and towards the west is only connected with the land by a rocky neck of considerable length, defended by various fortifications built out of the solid rock. The interior is roomy, and various apartments of good proportions are contained within it. There is a small



MONT ORGEUIL, JERSEY.

detached rock called Cæsar's Fort close by. The castle appears to have been already a place of some importance in the reign of King John, as he is said to have strengthened and enlarged its fortifications. From time to time it is alluded to in the local histories, but there seems no account of extraordinary events connected with it during the latter part of the middle ages. In the days of Queen Elizabeth it was, however, an important post, and could not fail to come into use during the troublesome times that arose after the death of James I. It must always have been one of the most striking points of view, and one of the strongest posts on the coast of Jersey. In this respect it compares well with Elizabeth Castle, close to St. Helier's, and with Castle Cornet, in Guernsey.

Mont Orgueil Castle is said to have been inhabited for a short time by King Charles II., when that monarch sought refuge in the island, and his apartments are shown. Before that, George Poulett had resided there under Queen Elizabeth, and Sir Philip de Carteret under Charles I. In the same reign Prynne was confined here for nearly three years. Here he wrote a description of the castle more quaint than poetical.

"Mont Orgeuil Castle is a lofty pile,
Within the eastern part of Jersey isle,
Seated upon a rock, full large and high,
Close by the sea-shore, next to Normandie;
Near to a sandy bay, where boats do ride,
Within a peere, safe from both winds and tide."
Etc. etc.

There is no charge for admission to see the interior

of the castle, and the objects usually visited are (1) the remains of the chapel; (2) a deep well, said to be Roman; (3) the ruins of the old prison for island culprits; (4) the room where Bandinel and his son were confined in the time of Charles I.; (5) the cell in which Prynne was confined; (6) the apartments of Charles II.

MOURIERS.

(Distance from St. Helier's, about 7 miles N.W.)

A wild desolate part of the northern extremity of Jersey between Crabbé Bay and La Houle. Here one of the principal streams of the northern part of the island, formerly used to work some mills, but now allowed to run down a naked valley in a rapid torrent past the desolate ruins of the mills, leaps down a vertical wall of granite about twenty feet into a dark pool. It is not easy to find, but may be reached from the Grève de Lecq, after passing Crabbé, and before reaching Sorel Point and La Houle. It is well worthy of a visit, if only for the contrast it presents to almost everything else in the island.

MOYE POINT.

(Distance from St. Aubin's, 3 miles S.)

One of the principal headlands between the Corbières and St. Brelade's Bay, on which is a signal station communicating with St. Helier's, and announcing the arrival of all ships from the north and west. Not far from the signal are two chimney-like holes in the rock, perforated

through a cliff of large angular fragments of granite. These holes or *creux* are close to each other, and can be descended under favourable conditions of tide. They should be visited on the way from St. Aubin's or St. Brelade's to see the Corbières rocks. The stone used for the Thames Embankment and Chatham Docks was taken from Moye Point.

NOIRMONT.

A considerable promontory of high land separating St. Aubin's from St. Brelade's Bay. The wide tract of land here is chiefly covered with furze and heather, terminating at its southern extremity in two points. These are Noirmont Point to the east, and Fret Point to the west, and between them is a little cove called Portelet Bay. Noirmont is a signal-post station.

PIERRES DE LECQ OR PATERNOSTERS.

The name given to the westernmost of the three groups of rocks that range parallel to the north coast of Jersey, at a distance of about three miles from the island. These rocks are seen from the cliff above the Grève de Lecq. (See GREVE DE LECQ, page 61.)

PLEMONT.

(Distance from St. Heller's, 9 miles W.N.W.)

An important headland, nearly detached, forming the north-eastern horn of the Grève au Lançon or Sand-eel Cove, in the north-westernmost extremity of Jersey, and famous on account of its caverns, which may be

best visited from the Grève de Lecq. Care should be taken to ascertain first the state of the tide before venturing among these dangerous rocks. They can also be visited from the Grève au Lançon. See page 59, and N.W. corner of map.

PONTAC.

(Hotel.—Distance from St. Helier's, 2¾ miles E.)

A pleasant and pretty village near the middle of St. Clement's Bay, much resorted to in summer by pic-nic parties. On the sands there are good opportunities for sand-eeling, a favourite amusement on moonlight nights in summer. The land about is cultivated to the water's edge, and naked rocks project above the vegetable soil in the fields. The hotel at Pontac is extremely comfortable. Here there are ornamental grounds and a miniature *fac-simile* of the Hampton Court maze.

PORTELET BAY.

(Distance from St. Aubin's, 1½ miles S.)

A small picturesque bay open to the south at the extremity of Noirmont promontory. A martello tower on a rock rises boldly out of the centre of the bay. Bold hills and steep cliffs nearly enclose it, there is a charming drive of a mile and a half from St. Aubin's to this place, after which the visitor should proceed to St. Brelade's Bay with its heathery slopes. See page 77.

LA PLATTE ROCQUE.

A mass of low rocks at the east of St. Clement's Bay on which the French under Baron Rullecourt landed in 1781.

LA PULE OR PINNACLE ROCK.

Distance from St. Helier's, about 8¼ miles N.W by W.

A grand and singular pinnacle of rock almost detached, consisting entirely of granite, and not less than from 150 to 180 feet high. It lies between Cape Grosnez and l'Etac, on the cliffs of the tract called Les Landees, and presents an appearance of parallel layers of rock inclining inland, but this is not the real structure. It is not considered easy of access, but is within the compass of a very easy walk from l'Etac village. Here a fine vein of lead ore has been discovered.

QUENVAIS.

A tract of land in the south-western part of Jersey, extending north and west from St. Brelade's Bay, and meeting the sandy lands on the southern half of St. Ouen's Bay. The district is elevated and was formerly fertile, but owing to the prevalence of westerly winds the sands, at first drifted on the shores of St. Ouen's Bay, have been carried steadily onward. Lifted up the slope they have risen gradually to the level of the table land. It is believed that the actual destruction of the old farms took place only about the end of the fifteenth century. It has been found hitherto impossible to check the advance of the sands.

ROZEL (Village and Bay).

(Hotel.—Distance from St. Helier's, 5¾ miles N. by E.)

Rozel is one of five principal fiefs into which the whole of Jersey was divided in feudal times. They are called "Fiefs Hauberts," and are held directly from the crown by knight's service. There are other minor fiefs. In the village and near it are several houses and properties of interest, and the bay, though small, is at the foot of a fine bold valley running up the country and traversed by a carriageable road. It is a great place of resort for pic-nics during summer.

Rozel Bay is on the north-eastern coast, and the village is close to the water, and is chiefly inhabited by fishermen and their families. There are some dilapidated barracks on the shore well adapted for the shelter of the parties who visit the bay for the sake of a day's pleasure. The bay is shut in.

The manor-house is on the high ground, and offers nothing remarkable; but there is an interesting residence called *La Chaire*, formerly the property of Mr. Samuel Curtis, whose great knowledge of botany enabled him to lay out his grounds so as to take advantage of the extremely mild and equable climate of the island. Mr. Curtis also carried on here some interesting horticultural experiments, the results of which visitors are admitted to see. A short way west of Rozel Village is Saie Harbour.

SAIE HARBOUR.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 5½ miles N. E.)

An exceedingly picturesque and broken bay on the north-eastern extremity of the island next Rozel Bay to the east, and separated from it by the fine headland called the Couperon. The beach is composed of very irregular ridges of pudding-stone, covered with weed, and rising out of a field of pebbles of all shapes, sizes, and colours, derived from the same rock. Near the steep rocky background of cliff are huge masses of the same conglomerate, not yet broken up by the waves, but strewn about in the richest confusion. A wooded gorge, called the Douet de la Mer, intervenes between Saie Harbour and Rozel Bay. Both the harbour and the Douet should be visited.

ST. AUBIN'S.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 4 miles W. by S.) A railway runs between St. Helier's and St. Aubin's.

St. Aubin's Bay occupies the central part of the south coast of Jersey, being enclosed by Noirmont promontory on the west, which separates it from St. Brelade's Bay, and by the low land and marsh of Samarez on the east, separating it from St. Clement's Bay. From Noirmont Point to La Motte the distance across is about 5½ miles. It is one of the largest, and is usually regarded as the most picturesque of the Jersey bays; but though much larger, it cannot compare in picturesque beauty with the numerous bays of the

north, north-east, and north-west coast. Not only is it surpassed by these in grandeur and picturesque beauty, but St. Ouen's also is larger, and in some respects finer. St. Aubin's, however, possesses the great advantage of having on its shores the two principal towns of the island. A large population being thus concentrated within a short distance of its coast-line, there are numerous buildings and gardens, and much greater variety of style than is seen elsewhere. There is a charm in this mixed scenery that the grander but more solitary beauty of the rocky bays does not approach.

The hills behind the shores of St. Aubin's Bay rise rapidly, and form an enclosing ridge of table-land. Their sides are for the most part covered with vegetation, and indeed are almost everywhere cultivated. Many houses and villas are seen, and there is a good road skirting the coast, as well as numerous branch roads.

On the road to St. Aubin's from St. Helier's there is a large hotel (the Marine Hotel) and a bathing establishment called the Alexandra Baths.

Small groups of rocks connected with the shore at low water, face each other on the east and west horns of the bay. On the east side Elizabeth Castle is built on one of these, and on the west is St. Aubin's Castle. The town of St. Aubin's is small, but clean, and has two or three decent inns and a market-place. Lodgings may be had. There are no remarkable public buildings.

Immediately behind St. Aubin's, on the road to St. Brelade's, is a hill of decomposed granite, where the rotten stone is dug into like gravel. The decomposition

is local, but has extended to a great and unusual depth. It is worthy of a visit from the geologist. A short way west of St. Aubin's is

ST. BRELADE'S.

(Distance of the Church from St. Helier's, 5½ miles W. by S.)

This most beautiful bay and interesting locality extends from Fret Point, the south-westernmost extremity of Noirmont promontory, to Les Juteurs—a headland separating St. Brelade's Bay from the little cove of Beau Port (which see). Noirmont promontory separates it from St. Aubin's Bay, and there is a continuance of grand rocky cliff scenery westward to the Corbières, the south-western extremity of the island.

On the western side of the bay there is a delicious little cove, with fantastic rocks and recesses, known as the Creux Fantomes, or fairy caves. It is well worthy of a visit, though seldom explored. Close to the little headland that forms the cove in question is seen the church of St. Brelade's, one of the oldest buildings, and certainly the earliest Christian church in the Channel Islands. The actual building dates from the early part of the twelfth century, and though now the churchyard walls are washed by the waves, it was no doubt originally at some distance from the shore. The church is small and plain, and without tower or spire, but is singularly picturesque. Closely adjoining is a small chapel, known as the Chapelle des Pêcheurs, or Fisherman's Chapel. It is now desecrated, but contains some rude fresco painting. It is coeval probably with the ancient churches in the island.

St. Brelade's is perhaps the best point for visiting the grand scenery around the Corbiéres and the neighbouring cliffs on the south-western part of the island. The bay has several charming residences, and vegetation comes close to its shores. The east side is wild and not very accessible. There is good accommodation in the village, and an omnibus runs between it and St. Helier's.

ST. CATHERINE'S BAY.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 5 miles N.E.)

A bay of moderate dimensions, a little to the north of Gorey and Mont Orgeuil. It was at one time considered peculiarly adapted to serve as a harbour of refuge, for which purpose the necessary works were commenced from the two horns of the bay, but abandoned before being finished. Verclut Point, at the northern extremity of the bay, and the breakwater beyond, are the best points for seeing the bay. Near Verclut are some interesting quarries in the very curious conglomerate which covers all the north-eastern part of the coast. These conglomerates are stratified, dipping about 30° to the north-east. There is a small tower on the shore about mid-way between the two ends of the bay. The scenery about St. Catherine's Bay is rather pleasing than grand, and is finest towards the northern end. It is very easily reached, being about one mile east of St. Martin's Church. "The Druid's Temple" is in the immediate neighbourhood.

ST. CLEMENT'S (Bay and Church).

(Distance of Church from St. Helier's, 2½ miles E.)

St. Clement's is separated from St. Helier's by the marshy promontory of Samarez, described on page 84. Without being bold, and having no cliffs of any height, its singular floor of rocks, laid bare at low water, renders this part of the Jersey coast very striking. If visited near high-tide, an expanse of water is seen, smooth or rough according to the state of the sea beyond, but unbroken except by a few islands and rocks of small size. A few hours afterwards, especially at the eastern end, the whole surface is black with innumerable rocky islets, covered with weed. La Motte is one of the largest islands. This, and a few others, are clothed with vegetation, and appear to have become islands very recently. On the shore there are several houses and cultivated grounds besides the village of Pontac (see page 72). The railway to Gorey passes St. Clement's.

There is good sea-bathing by machines in the part of the bay nearest St. Helier's.

ST. HELIER'S.

This being the principal town in the island, and the place from which most tourists will probably start, it is made to precede the alphabetical arrangement. (See page 41.)

ST. JOHN'S (Church, 5¾ miles from St. Helier's).
ST. LAWRENCE'S (Church, 3½ miles).
ST. MARTIN'S (Church, 3¼ miles).
ST. MARY'S (Church, 5¼ miles).

These parish churches offer no special points of interest. St. John's is in the north of the island, near the Mont Mado quarries. St. Lawrence's is in the middle of the island. St. Martin's is behind St. Catherine's Bay, on the north-eastern corner. It communicates with the bay by a pretty and quiet valley, characteristic of the interior of Jersey. St. Mary's Church has been lately repaired. It is at the head of the beautiful watered valley that leads to the Grève de Lecq. In an island where there are few landmarks it is sometimes convenient to know the position of the churches, however little interesting they may be in themselves.

ST. OUEN'S, OR ST. OWEN'S (Bay, Church, Manor-House, and Pond).

(Distance of Church from St. Helier's, 6¼ miles W. by N.)

St. Ouen's is the largest of the Jersey bays. It faces the west, and its breadth from L'Etac to the Corbières is 5½ miles. Fine sands cover the shore, except where, towards the southern end, the rocks jut out and present their serrated edges. Owing to the rocky bottom, and the full exposure to prevalent winds and a great ocean, there is no safe anchorage except near a small rock, about half a mile out, called

La Rocca. The ground rises towards the interior to a table-land, but there is a wide intervening flat close to the sea, on which are several farm-houses. Both extremities of the bay are rocky and bold, but the southern extremity is the most rocky.

A curious pond or lake of fresh water exists on the flat sands and lands between high-water mark and the cliff. There are in it several kinds of fish, which have been introduced and breed very freely. Fresh water enters from the surrounding land, the rain filtering through the low sands, and the size of the pond varies from time to time.

There is no doubt that in former times the whole of the lands near the sea have been covered with forest, which has been destroyed by the gradual advance of the sands. It is probable, therefore, that there have been changes of level in this part of Jersey within a comparatively recent date. Guernsey affords similar proof of recent changes of level.

The Church of St. Ouen is near the manor-house, and at some distance from the sea, but the steeple is a useful land-mark. The building is old, but retains nothing of any interest in its style of construction.

The Manor-house of St. Ouen is a very good and interesting specimen of one of the old feudal dwellings of the island, modernized at the close of the seventeenth century. It is a long rambling pile of building approached through an arched gateway of the time of Henry VII. The central part is more modern and of the time of Charles II. The wings are recent and of no

style whatever. The whole exterior has been modernised in the worst taste. There is a small square massive tower in the building, apparently very ancient, and probably much the oldest portion.

The interior is interesting. There is a spacious hall from which doors open to several rooms on the ground floor, and a fine oak stair-case conducts to the upper rooms. There are some pictures on the walls, but the only one of interest is a portrait of a figure on horseback with a view of the old Manor-house in the background. It is reported that one of the hereditary feudal lords of the manor of St. Ouen—a certain Philip de Carteret—had been out one day fishing in the pond or lake above alluded to, and was surprised by a party of French just landed. He had time to jump on his horse and gallop towards home, but to secure his retreat his only chance was to leap one of the hollow country lanes running between two banks. His horse carried him over safely and he escaped, but the poor animal perished.

This Philip de Carteret was the father-in-law of Margaret de Harliston, a celebrated Jersey heroine in the time of Henry VII. It is reported of her that she went alone to England very shortly after her confinement to appeal to the King against the treachery of one Matthew Baker, then governor of Jersey, who had falsely accused her husband of traitorous correspondence with the French. The expedition of this heroic lady is said to have been as successful as it deserved to be.

ST. PETER'S (Valley and Church).

(Distance of Church from St. Helier's, 4¼ miles W. by N.)

The parish of St. Peter's is in the western part of the island and chiefly in the interior. It is a fruitful and populous but little visited district. The valley of St. Peter's is one of the richest and prettiest though not the most picturesque in Jersey. At the entrance of the valley are extensive meadows and marshes, the result of a stream coming down from the northern part of the island, and watering a large district. Orchards and corn-fields, with numerous farm-houses and small homesteads, occupy the open part of the valley. Further up it contracts and becomes a mere narrow glen with little cultivation, but still higher it again expands, and the road brings us to the church. Its spire is one of the loftiest in the island. The railway passes the entrance to St. Peter's Valley. The St. Peter's Barracks are not far off.

ST. SAVIOUR'S (Parish and Church).

(Distance of Church from St. Helier's, 1 mile N.)

Like most of the parishes St. Saviour's is a long narrow strip of land ranging from north to south. The southern extremity includes the eastern suburbs of St. Helier's, while the northern reaches almost to Bouley Bay. The church is about 1½ mile from St. Helier's. It is old but not interesting. The churchyard is a picturesque retreat on an eminence under the shade of trees. It is much used by the English residents of St. Helier's, and the views from it are very beautiful. There

is a small endowment for a free school in this parish. It bears the name of St. Maglorius or Magloire, one of the patron saints of Jersey, who taught Christianity prior to St. Helier.

Not far from the churchyard at St. Saviour's there was once a large rocking stone. It is now broken up for building purposes.

SAMAREZ BAY AND MANOR-HOUSE.

(Distance of Manor-House from St. Helier's, 1¾ miles E.)

This is a cove in the eastern part of St. Aubin's Bay between Fort Regent and La Motte. It is also called the Greve d'Azette, but is not remarkable in any respect, the shores being flat, and a marshy tract intervening between the higher ground of the interior and the coast. There are numerous rocks exposed at low water. A cut called a canal, intended to drain this tract, was commenced but never completed.

The Manor-house of Samarez is in no respect different from an ordinary country house, but it is interesting as connected with the famous Dumaresq family.

A stone called the Witches Rock or Rocbert stands up in a field near Samarez, on the way to St. Clement's church. On this it is said that the witches of the island hold their sabbath. It is certainly as likely a spot as any other for this purpose, but is not therefore worthy of a visit from the traveller. The railway to St. Clement's and Gorey passes through Samarez.

SAUCHET.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 6 miles N. by E.)

A small cove on the north coast between Rozel and Bouley Bays. It is only remarkable for its pebble beach, and as showing the rate at which the sea is wearing away the coast and widening the gully which terminates in the cove. To the geologist it is for this reason both interesting and instructive.

SOREL POINT.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 7½ miles N.W. by N.)

A very prominent headland on the north coast, forming one arm of La Houle, a singular cove described in its place. From Sorel Point there is a grand and remarkable view both to east and west, as well as a fine sea view to the north. The headland stretches far out to sea in innumerable rocky points, and curious flesh coloured and deep pink veins of felspar are seen in the accessible granite cliffs to the east. It is not often visited, but will amply repay the trouble of reaching it to any one fond of wild scenery.

TRINITY (Church and Manor).

(Distance of Church from St. Helier's, 8½ miles N.)

The parish of the Holy Trinity is small, but includes much of the finest part of the north coast of the island, and is connected by omnibus with St. Helier's, which greatly facilitates visiting from Trinity both Bouley and Bonne-Nuit Bays. From the second turning to the

left after passing the church a beautiful scene presents itself. In front is the winding road leading to Bouley harbour, beneath the blue sea, and in the distance the coast of Normandy (see pages 50 and 51.)

VAL DES VAUX.

A very beautiful valley opening out immediately to the north of St. Helier's. It may be followed up four or five miles. It is watered by a stream turning several mills. This valley introduces the pedestrian to some characteristic views of the interior. Branching from it many objects of interest may be reached. Among them is La Hougue Bie, elsewhere described.

VERCLUT POINT.

(Distance from St. Helier's, 5½ miles N.N.E.)

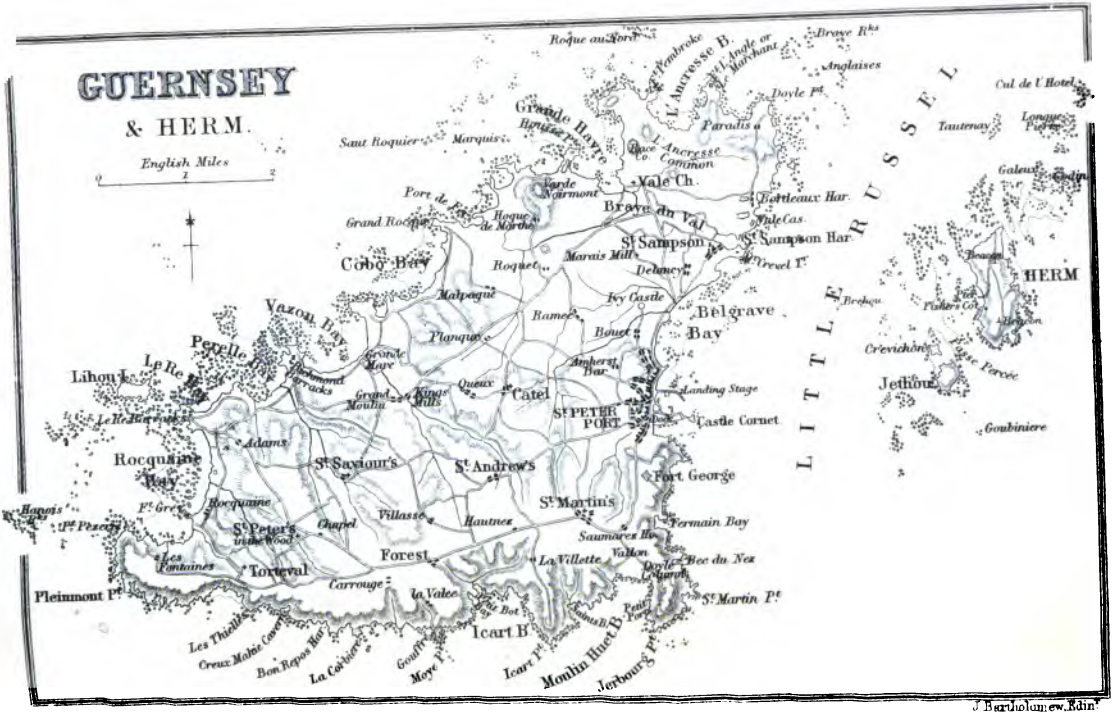
The northern extremity of St. Catherine's Bay is thus named. It is a detached point of rock close to the large quarries opened for the construction of the breakwater. The scenery here is very grand, and the breakwater carried out to seaward from the headland affords an excellent view of the bay of St. Catherine.

VICARD (Harbour and Point).

(Distance from St. Helier's, 5½ miles N.)

Vicard Point is the western horn of Bouley Bay. It is a grand and interesting headland, and affords fine views of the bay to the east. The harbour is a very small but bold and picturesque cove to the west. Vicard

Point is granite, but both to the south-east and north-west sandstones, claystones, and quartzite, are all seen within a short distance. Vicard is not far from the extreme northern point of Jersey. No road approaches it very nearly.



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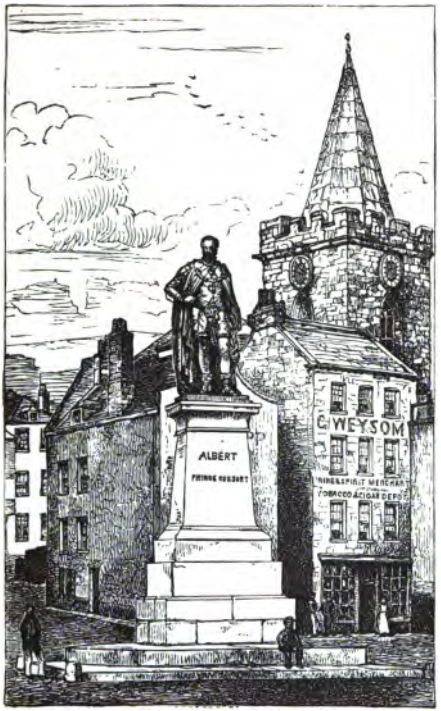

ALBERT STATUE AND TOWN CHURCH.

GUERNSEY.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

For Landing Arrangements, Hotels, etc., see Page 98.

Latitude between 49° 25′ and 49° 31′ north; longitude, between 2° 30′ and 2° 41′ west. Shape, a right angled triangle. Dimensions: longer side (S.W. and N.E.) about 9½ miles; east

side, about 6½ miles; south side, 7 miles. Circuit, including windings, about 30 miles. Area to low water-mark, about 25 square miles, or 16,005 acres. About 10,000 acres are under cultivation. Highest elevation, 349 feet above mean tide. Population in 1871 (including Herm and Jethou)—males, 13,732, females, 16,948; total, 30,680, nearly stationary. Increase since 1861, 880. Inhabited houses in 1871, 5252. Towns—St. Peter Port and St. Sampson's. Parishes—St. Peter Port, St. Martin's, St. Andrew's, Câtel (St. Mary de Castel), St. Peter's in the Wood, St. Saviour's, the Vale, St. Sampson's.

Near Guernsey are Herm, Jethou, and Crevichon. Herm is the largest of these, but Jethou also is inhabited. Crevichon is a mere rock.

Guernsey, Herm, and Jethou, with a number of rocky islets and groups of rocks, separated by narrow, and, for the most part, shallow channels, may be regarded as the outlying islands of the Channel group. They are surrounded in every direction, and to some distance (except towards the west), by numerous rocks and shoals, many of which are bare at low water. They are approached by a channel between the largest island and the smaller groups. This channel is known as the Little Russel, and is dangerous except for vessels of light draught, though there is water for the largest ships. There is a lighthouse on the rocks called the Hanois, off the south-western extremity of Guernsey. There are two towns on the side of Guernsey facing the east. The highest part of the island is the south coast, and from thence the land falls away towards the north, but the whole is table-land, intersected by a few small valleys. The south coast, almost without exception, is steep and inaccessible. The north-west coast offers a succession of fine bays,

with sandy beaches and low cliffs. It is fringed with rocks, which form a natural defence almost equal to the steep cliffs on the south.

The coast scenery of Guernsey is exceedingly grand. It somewhat resembles, but is superior to, that of the north of Jersey. There is also a much greater extent and greater variety of wild scenery in proportion to the size of the island. Herm is in some parts remarkable for the same peculiarity. The interior of Guernsey, though pretty in certain places, is, on the whole, much less so than the interior of Jersey. The island is thinly wooded; the enclosures are not picturesque, and the roads do not for the most part show off the island beauties to advantage. The rather monotonous slope from south to north helps to weaken the effect of the more comprehensive views of inland scenery. Nothing, however, can excel the exquisite little lanes near the coast. These often have a stream of water running through them, and they are richly wooded. The water-lanes are thoroughly characteristic of Guernsey, and have been immortalised by the pencil of Mr. P. J. Naftel, who is a native and resident of the island. Guernsey is chiefly remarkable for its coast beauties.

The climate of Guernsey is very equable—more so, indeed, than is recorded of any part of Europe. The mean temperature is 2½° higher than Greenwich, but the mean winter temperature is 6° higher than that of Greenwich, the summer temperature being rather cooler. In November, December, and January, the difference in favour of Guernsey is respectively 5½°, 7½°, and 7°

But this is not all. The mean temperature is not only higher, but the range of temperature is very much smaller. In other words, the difference between the highest and lowest readings of the thermometer is very small. The average annual value of this difference at Greenwich is rarely less than 10°, and in some months it reaches 20°. In Guernsey, the monthly mean is for some months only 6°, and never reaches 12°. Night frosts are altogether exceptional at all seasons. In other respects, as well as these, the climate is eminently insular; more so, indeed, than that of Jersey. The humidity is less than might be expected in so small an island so near an open ocean. February is the month when the humidity is greatest and the temperature lowest; August presents the reverse. September is somewhat damp, but October, November, and December are usually pleasant months. Guernsey is remarkably healthy, especially to invalids, aged people, and children.

The trade of Guernsey is carried on by about 120 vessels of all kinds, having a tonnage of about 18,000 tons. A fair amount of shipbuilding is carried on; but the chief business is derived from the stone-quarries, which largely supply a very excellent road material, preferred in London to almost all other varieties of granite.

A large quantity of fish is taken off the coast, most of which is shipped immediately to Southampton for the London market. Turbot are sometimes extremely abundant. John Dory and red mullets are

very common. Other excellent fish are caught. A large number of cows reared in the island are sold to England at high prices. There is an important trade in grapes and pears during the season, and early potatoes are a very profitable crop.

A company of the Royal Artillery is stationed at Guernsey, and there is a local militia, conducted much as in Jersey. The nominal strength is about 5000 men; the number under arms less than half that amount.

The language of Guernsey is quite distinct from that of Jersey, and the country people retain it. It is spoken generally in the market, but most of the people understand and speak English. French is the language of the courts, and of public service in the country churches.

As in Jersey, and to a greater extent, the *Vraic harvest* is an important matter to the islanders. At least 30,000 loads are annually collected for manure, chiefly from the bays on the west coast; and a manufacture of iodine from the burnt ashes was commenced in 1844. About 20,000 ounces were made annually for some years, but since 1860 the work has been stopped owing to the diminished value of the material.

The roads in Guernsey are excellent, and reach to every part. They are not so complicated as in Jersey, and are a very recent innovation. With the exception of a service of very indifferent omnibuses between St. Peter Port and St. Sampson's, excursions during summer which allow no time for the scenery, and a few stages

running on market-days to and from the various villages, the visitor is dependent on the livery stable-keepers for conveyances. These are good, but not cheap. The island is hilly and the carriages are heavy.

There is much that is especially interesting to the naturalist in Guernsey, and something for the special study of the geologist. In the very limited space to which such subjects must be confined in a guide-book, it would be quite impossible to give even a comprehensible outline of the various departments. Pointing out one or two special matters, we must refer the reader for details to the general work already alluded to on the Channel Islands.*

Among plants there are several that are not met with in England, and that clearly mark the insular character of Guernsey. The same may be said of the animals.

Of flowering plants there are many of great interest —some perhaps indigenous, others certainly introduced, but now flourishing and naturalised. *Orchis laxiflora*, *Pyrola rotundifolia*, *Silene maritima*, two species of *Spiranthes*, the horned poppy, and others, are among the former. Numerous species of *Ixia*, *Sparaxis*, *Gladiolus*, and above all, of *Amaryllis*, may be named among the latter. Several grasses also and ferns, rare in England, are here common, and some of them very beautiful. A species of *Ophioglossum* (*O. Lusitanicum*) is almost peculiar, and an *Isoetes* (*I. hystrix*), rare

* See "The Channel Islands" by Professor Ansted and Dr. R. G. Latham.

north of the Mediterranean, and not found in England, has been recognised here.*

Among animals, the fishes of the surrounding seas and the birds that flock to the island, may be regarded as visitors drawn to this locality by favourable temperature of water and air. They are very numerous, and include many that are rare. Nearly 200 species of birds and 127 species of fishes are named as at least occasional visitors. Molluscs and crustaceans are equally interesting and varied, and some are very rare, or altogether unknown, on the coasts of England. But it is chiefly the singular zoophytes, and among them the sea-anemones, the *Tubulariæ*, the *Caryophylliæ*, and the *Plumulariæ* and sponges that have rendered the granite caverns of Guernsey and Sark so celebrated.

On the beach at Bordeaux Harbour, on the shore near St. Peter Port, in the rocky pools of Lihou, and in the western bays, the seeker for these treasures may occupy hours in research, and is certain to be rewarded with success. The bays of the south coast, if not equally rich, are hardly less remarkable; and from all these places the marine vivarium may be replenished with healthy and vigorous individuals.

* The Botanist and Horticulturist should not fail to visit the grounds at Valnor, where South American, Australian, South African, New Zealand, Chinese, and Japanese trees and plants may be seen growing in the open air with singular luxuriance. During the camellia season there are some trees in the gardens of Beau Sejour that ought to be visited. The gardens of Candie contain magnificent trees, and there is a myrtle covering the side of the house towards the Candie road, which is well worthy of a visit. In Guernsey the *Amaryllis Sarniensis*, though never known to blow a second time in France or England, has been cultivated to perfection.

The geology of Guernsey is instructive to the student of metamorphism. He may here find almost all varieties of granitic rock interpenetrating and passing into one another, and gneiss clearly shown as a variety of granite less completely formed. But he who would learn the mode and extent of recent atmospheric and marine action on rocks of the hardest kind may spend days and weeks on these picturesque shores. He will learn from the caverns, the raised beaches, and the submerged forests, that something more than the mere waves and the atmosphere have been at work, and he will leave the island much more fitted than before to appreciate the daily operations of nature, and admit the possibility of others less frequent, though perhaps hardly less regular. Many curious and some rare minerals have been found in Guernsey.

MODE OF SEEING THE ISLAND.

To see Guernsey properly, it is absolutely necessary to explore on foot the various bays, coves, and nooks; to descend to the shore wherever there is a path, to climb and scramble among the rocks, and to enter the crevices and caverns. Although the distances are not great, much time will thus be occupied, and as the work is fatiguing, it may be found advantageous either to drive to the nearest point on the table-land or to stop a night or two at the inns on the side of the island furthest removed from the town. As in Jersey, however, it will be most convenient and pleasant to make

the town head-quarters. The objects that ought especially to be visited are Castle Cornet, the harbour works, the walks under the fort (called Les Terres), Fermain Bay, Jerbourg Point, Moulin Huet, Saint's Bay, Petit Bot Bay and its two approaches, Icart, the Corbières, the Gouffre, Moye Point, Pleinmont, and Rocquaine Bay; Lihou, Perelle, Vazon and Cobo Bays; L'Ancresse, Bordeaux Harbour, the Vale Church and Castle, St. Saviour's and St. Peter's Valleys, and St. Andrew's. A fine day should be selected for an expedition to Herm. It is more convenient to visit Serk from Guernsey than from Jersey.

Money, Weights, and Measures.

In Guernsey the currency is now that of England, twelve pence to the shilling, the States recently having issued copper coins of the same value as those of the realm. French silver coins are often met with. The franc is worth ten old Guernsey pence, and the Guernsey pound was worth 240 such pence. Local bank-notes of the value of one pound currency are in common circulation, but tourists had better avoid them, as they are troublesome to negotiate outside the island.

The Guernsey pound weight contains 7845 grains, being 1¾ oz. and 80 grains heavier than avoirdupois. 100 Guernsey pounds are equivalent to 108 lbs. 15½ oz. avoirdupois.

The Guernsey vergée or common measure of land contains 1960 square yards, so that 2¼ vergées equal one British acre.

The Guernsey gallon contains 246 cubic inches, and is about five per cent smaller than the English imperial gallon.

The denerel or dundrel is about one forty-eighth part of the English quarter.

ST. PETER PORT.

PRINCIPAL TOWN IN GUERNSEY.

Latitude, 49° 27½ N. Longitude, 2° 32' W.

Population in 1871.—Males, 6731; females, 9435; total, 16,166.

Distances.—From Southampton, 128 miles; Plymouth, 105; Dartmouth, 80; Weymouth, 82; Falmouth, 80; Alderney, 21; St. Helier's, 30; St. Malo, 61; Granville, 62.

Landing arrangements.—The steamboats come alongside at the north pier. Passengers are enabled to walk on shore at all times of the tide. Porters are waiting, who convey the luggage to the hotels or to any part of the town at fixed rates. Carriages are in waiting, but there are no omnibuses into the town. The distance to the lower part of the town is small.

Among the principal hotels in Guernsey are THE ROYAL YACHT in the High Street, and THE ROYAL and CAMBRIDGE on Glatney Esplanade, and OLD GOVERNMENT HOUSE (private hotel). Besides these there are several commercial hotels, as well as some which are conducted on the French System.

Boarding and Lodging Houses.—There are excellent boarding establishments. Of lodging-houses there is a very large supply in every direction. They are tolerably good, and for the most part comfortable and moderate. Many will be found in the Candie Road and Albert Park; others are in the Grange Road, and streets leading out of it. Most of the country villages, but especially St. Martin's, contain houses generally occupied by English families resident in the island for a season. Good country lodgings may be found in many of the more distant parishes, where the cottages, inhabited for the most part by the younger members of the families of the small proprietors, are remarkably tidy and comfortable. In winter the best lodgings are generally secured early. There is a *skating-rink* at Bosq Lane.

St. Peter Port presents a straggling frontage of nearly a mile and a half towards the sea. Along the

whole of this distance and beyond, nearly to St. Sampson's, the sea is kept off by a permanent sea-wall and esplanade. The buildings near the sea are irregular, and for the most part poor; but they are not unpicturesque from a distance. Behind them the rising ground is much broken and is covered with houses and other buildings, rising one behind another, and crowned by several constructions of greater pretensions, though scarcely in better taste. Of these buildings, one of the most prominent and by no means the least pleasing, is the Victoria tower, commemorative of the Queen's visit in 1846. Another is the College, built in a style which it would be unfair to call Gothic, except in a sense now exploded. Castle Carey is another rather anomalous pile: these, with one or two churches in a mongrel style, form the more prominent objects; bad as they are, they cannot destroy the picturesque effect produced by the shape of the ground, and by the considerable variety of domestic architecture which still remains, and is characteristic of the island. A good general view of St. Peter Port is obtained while approaching it from the sea. Dim old houses nestle near the harbour, and new villas rise in terraces round it.

There is, however, fronting the sea, although in a position too low to command attention or attract notice from a distance, a really important ecclesiastical building, known as the Town Church. It is far superior in design and execution, as well as in historical interest, to any old building within the compass of the Channel Islands. It well deserves examination, and reflects

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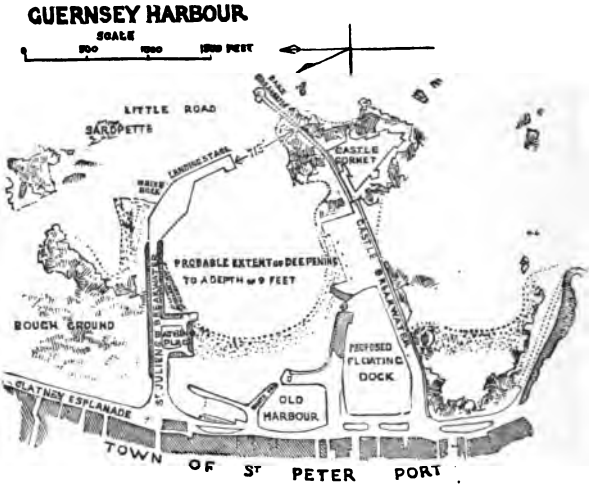
the highest credit on all concerned in restoring it from the state of neglect into which it had fallen during the last century. The style is Flamboyant Gothic, but with many marks of early work retained.

The most prominent near objects, on approaching St. Peter Port from the sea, are Castle Cornet and the new harbour-works. A portion of the latter, consisting



of a magnificent sea-wall, now connects and passes beyond the rock on which the castle stands, commencing at the southern extremity of the town; so that the castle and the works appear to form part of one great plan. This sea-wall forms the south arm of the new harbour.

The old harbour of Guernsey, ordered to be built, A.D. 1275, by King Edward the First, and in course of

construction for two centuries, from 1580 to 1780, was only four and a half acres in extent, and the quay-room was extremely narrow and restricted. Plans for its enlargement were prepared in 1836, and others at a later period. Their execution was entrusted to Mr. G. Fosberry Lyster, on the recommendation of Mr. Rendell.

An idea of the present harbour will be at once obtained by looking at the annexed plan. Two esplanades have been constructed, one on each side of the old harbour, running parallel with the sea-front of the town, their total length being 2500 feet, with a breadth of 150 feet. From the two extremities of this, spring breakwaters: one at the south extremity reaching beyond Castle Cornet; the other, at the northern end, is still unfinished. Within this space, amounting in all to 73 acres, there has been enclosed not only a large anchorage ground, but a floating dock, building yards, a careening yard, and other conveniences for shipping.

Castle Cornet will be found referred to in the alphabetical arrangement. It forms an extremely picturesque appendage to the present harbour.

Besides the Town Church already alluded to, there are four churches and one proprietary chapel, and several dissenting chapels of various denominations. It is unnecessary to say anything more of these than that almost all are rivals in ugliness and bad taste, most of them belonging to the worst period of construction, and being bad specimens of their date. The churches are St. James's, near the College; St. John's,

in the northern part of the town; Trinity, near the market-place; and St. Stephen's, in the Rohais road. The chapel is All Saints, and is situated close to the Royal Court-house, and behind the theatre.

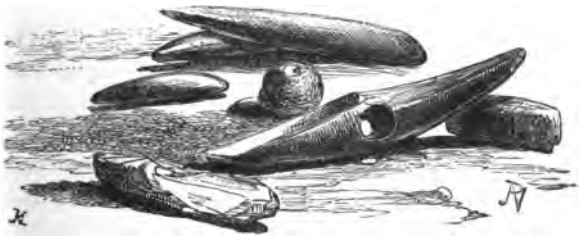
The service at the town church is French, except a garrison service at twelve noon. In the other churches and in All Saints there are morning and afternoon services in English at the usual hours, generally half-past ten and half-past six.

The Roman Catholic church is in Cordier Hill, close to the Grange Road. It is of some pretence, and was designed by the late Augustus W. N. Pugin. Though by no means faultless, it is yet much superior as a building to any of the Protestant places of worship except the Town Church.

Elizabeth College, as a building, is as little satisfactory as most of the other public buildings of the Channel Islands. It occupies a very prominent position, being seen both from the town and from the sea; but from every point it is heavy, ugly, and unmeaning. The educational arrangements and the management of the College are good. There is a fair endowment, permitting a first-rate classical instruction to be given at the rate of about £12 per annum. There are also several valuable prizes and exhibitions to Oxford and Cambridge. The management of the College is in the hands of nine directors appointed by the Governor and States, except the Dean, who is a director *ex officio*. The Principal and Vice-Principal are clergymen of the Church of England.

In all the parishes there are schools for the education of the children of farmers and small proprietors. In these, instruction is given in French and English. The attendance at the schools is large, compared with the population.

Guernsey possesses a Mechanics' Institute and a Working Man's Association. At the latter lectures are occasionally given. There is an excellent private museum of natural history and archæology collected by the late F. C. Lukis, in the Grange Road. Mr. Lukis's representatives open this fine museum to those who are interested in its contents.



ANCIENT WEAPONS: FROM MR. LUKIS' MUSEUM.

There are two cemeteries near the town—one called the New Cemetery, near the Victoria Tower and Elizabeth College, and the other the Foulon, about a mile and a half from the town on the Foulon Road. Both are open to all denominations. They are well situated, commanding noble views; but the New Cemetery is already becoming crowded, and is somewhat too near

the town. The Foulon grounds are more picturesque. They include only about six acres of ground.

Guernsey is well supplied with market produce. The principal market is held in a large open square, at one end of which is a small but excellent covered market for meat and fish. The fish-market is especially worthy of a visit, but is less well supplied than formerly. An arcade below the Assembly Rooms, on one side of this square, is usually crowded with French importations, both poultry and garden produce. Opposite the Assembly Rooms are public offices. Here also are the museum and reading-room of the Mechanics' Institution.

There are several circulating libraries, reading-rooms, etc., and a club. Barbet's in the High Street is the principal reading-room, and here newspapers and various periodicals may be seen directly after the arrival of the mail. There are several local papers published in Guernsey, generally giving abstracts of English and continental news, besides reporting insular events; and there is also issued on the island a French journal. The postal and telegraphic services in the island are complete, supplying ready and regular communication with both England and the Continent.

There are two Banks—the Old Bank and the Commercial Banking Company. Both issue their own notes, and a certain sum is also issued under the guarantee of the States. This issue is, in fact, a States' loan payable at call. The Guernsey bank-notes of all kinds may be taken without inquiry and with safety.

The main street in St. Peter Port is somewhat picturesque, but irregular, and badly built. It is tolerably supplied with shops. All the outlets from it into the island are narrow, dangerous, and bad. They rise almost immediately, and very steeply, and are indifferently paved. The visitor will be at first much surprised at the apparent poverty of the town. This impression is soon altered when the parts of the town are reached where the better class of inhabitants chiefly reside. The Grange is the principal promenade, and it presents a continuous line of excellent houses for a distance of more than a mile. Hauteville is another such line. The Candie Road is a third. The Grange Road and Hauteville are separated by a deep narrow gorge. There is an open space behind the houses in the Candie road, and close to the house called "Castle Carey," which is called Cambridge Park, and which is occasionally used as a parade-ground for the militia. On the road leading to St. Martin's there is a large space facing the sea, occupied by a strong fortress called "Fort George."—(See alphabetical arrangement.)

The Court-House and the New Prison—an expensive and strangely contrived structure—are in Hauteville, as the upper town, built on the slope of the hill to the S.W., is called. "Hauteville House," noted as the residence of Victor Hugo, the French poet, novelist, and philanthropist—to which strangers are admitted—is worthy of a visit. The Boulevard Saint Julian, leading from the north pier to the Candie Road, is a nicely planted promenade.

EXCURSIONS IN GUERNSEY.

The following places of Interest are arranged alphabetically, for the convenience of Tourists:—

ANCRESSE (Common and Bay).

(Distance from Harbour, about 4 miles N.)

Anchorage Bay—so called from the landing there of Robert, Duke of Normandy, after a severe storm in which he narrowly escaped shipwreck. It is an expanse of common-land at the northern extremity of Guernsey, terminating in a bay bearing the same name. L'Ancresse is for the most part a sandy waste covering granite, and was formerly separated from the rest of the island by a neck of land so low that it was generally covered by the tide. The sea is now shut off and the land reclaimed. This part is called the Braye du Val, or, more generally, the Vale (which see). No part of L'Ancresse common is high, but the floor of granite rises in hillocks from a few yards near the Vale to cliffs of about sixty feet near the sea.

L'Ancresse Common is more remarkable for its curious Druidical remains than for its picturesque beauty. Some of these are very striking and instructive. One situated behind the bay was explored in 1837 by Mr. F. C. Lukis, who wrote an account of "The Primeval Antiquities of the Channel Islands."

This cromlech is 45 feet long, 13 feet wide, and nearly 8 feet high. It is covered by seven blocks of

granite, the largest of which at the western end is estimated to weigh nearly 30 tons. It is 17 feet long, 10½ wide, and 4½ thick. Under the floor in 1837 were exhumed human bones, urns of coarse clay, amulets, beads, bone pins, and other objects, in two layers, separated by a bed of limpet shells, covered by a flat pavement of granite, the lower structure being on the natural soil. As many as 150 urns were removed.

Not far off, and still on the common, are cap-stones covering *kist-vaens*, or smaller Druidical enclosures, and detached stones forming parts of Druidical circles, besides several incomplete stone graves. A cairn or *hougue* close by is called "La Rocque Balan," or the rocking stone; but no such stone has been known in recent times.

On L'Ancresse Common during summer the horse-races of the island are held, and on this occasion a Queen's cup is given for island-bred horses. The running is not generally very good, nor are the races particularly well attended.

BAILIFF'S CROSS.

A junction of four roads, or *carrefour*, about a mile from St. Peter Port, where the road from St. Martin's to the Câtel intersects that from St. Peter Port to St. Andrew's. Near this spot there was till lately an old house built after an event sufficiently interesting as a legend of the middle ages, and connected with the name. The estate and house are called "La

Ville au Roi," and formed a fief subject to feudal service. The fief was granted in the thirteenth century, on the execution of a certain De la Salle, then Bailiff of the island, who had compassed the death of a neighbouring small proprietor, with whom he had quarrelled. On the way to the gibbet, the procession stopped at this point, and De la Salle received the last sacraments of the church.

Near the Bailiff's Cross is Havilland Hall, one of the best houses in the island. It is built in the style of an Indian bungalow, and is, in its own way, a handsome and substantial edifice.

The road from St. Peter Port to St. Andrew's is a very pleasing drive entirely through the interior, and without views of the sea. It conducts by St. Saviour's and the King's Mills to the western bays.

BEC DU NEZ.

(Distance from Harbour, about 8 miles S.)

A very small but picturesque landing-place amongst the rocky cliffs below Jerbourg, not far from Fermain Bay. Near it are two open rocky caverns. It is reached from a path running along the edge of the cliff from the north side of Fermain Bay; and this path, followed with difficulty, will enable the lover of cliffing to reach the shore in a very small cove, where there is another much finer cavern, and a kind of chimney or opening through the rock. Such openings are numerous in Sark, and occur in the other islands. They are locally called *creux*. This is one of the smaller and less visited points, and

is not adapted for those who dislike climbing over slippery and wet rocks. It is, however, in such places that the real beauties and curiosities of Guernsey are found.

BELGRAVE BAY.

This Bay is on the east side of Guernsey, and on its shores are the two towns of St. Peter Port and St. Sampson's. It is a wide open bay with a shingle and sand beach (*baie de la belle grève*). The ground rises towards the interior gradually, and only to a moderate height. The country behind is pretty, and the view from the sea picturesque, but not very strikingly so. This bay is the only one of any magnitude seen by vessels approaching the island from England, or leaving it for Jersey, Sark, or Alderney. It is by no means so beautiful as St. Aubin's Bay in Jersey, although, as representing it in a certain sense, it rather provokes comparison. The appearance, both from the sea and land, is rendered much more interesting owing to the vast floor of rocks, including the islands of Herm, Jethou, and in the distance Sark, that seem to alter their relative position every instant. The land-view includes all the principal buildings in the island, but they do not add much to the effect. The tourist should remember that in passing along this eastern side of Guernsey, he sees nothing whatever of the most picturesque part of the island. Thus, the first impression is very inferior to that produced by the approach to Jersey.

BORDEAUX HARBOUR.

(Distance from Harbour of St. Peter Port, about 2 miles N.

A small cove north of St. Sampson's on the east coast of the island. It is pretty, but the views from it are more striking than the views of it. Looking outwards from the shore, Herm and the rocks around and beyond it are in sight at a very short distance, and indeed at low water these almost seem to be a continuous reef across the Little Russel. This is not the case, as the water is deep enough in the passage for the largest ships; but the width of safe channel is very small.

Bordeaux Harbour is one of the most interesting spots in Guernsey for the marine zoologist. Several great rarities have been found there, and a visit will almost always result in the bringing away of some zoophytic treasures. There are numerous rocky pools at low water, and the tide runs out to a great distance. The rise of the tide in this bay is extremely rapid.

Close to this harbour, at a place called "Paradis," is a remarkable cromlech called l'Autel de Dehus (altar of the devil or deuce). The Dusii were Celtic deities, and this is one of the extremely rare instances of a Celtic word among the island patois. The cromlech is extremely well worthy of a visit, and ought on no account to be neglected.

BRAYE DU VAL. (See VALE.)

CASTLE CORNET.

A castle on a small rocky island close to the southern arm of the harbour of St. Peter Port. Before the recent improvement of the harbour, and the construction of a long pier which connects it with the mainland, this castle was a fortress, which, in the absence of heavy artillery, might have been considered defensible. It is, at any rate, picturesque, having been built at various times, and without any attempt at regular style. Its position will be understood by referring to the plan of the harbour in page 100. It still retains some of its ancient character, and many interesting gems of architecture. Long ago it passed from being the residence of the governor to be the public prison; but during the last half century it has not retained even this measure of importance. It has, indeed, been a station for part of the garrison, and such it remains; but it is shorn of so much of its glory in modern times, that it hardly repays the general tourist for the trouble of obtaining an order from the Lieutenant-Governor to visit the interior.

In its position and partial isolation, Castle Cornet reminds us of Elizabeth Castle, and like that it helps very much to give a picturesque character to the bay containing it and the surrounding scenery. Like Elizabeth Castle, it has numerous historical recollections connected with the time of the great rebellion. Three parliamentary commissioners, taken prisoners by

the Royalist Governor, were confined in it, and escaped. The rooms they escaped from are still to be seen. There are some curious and interesting morsels of architecture for those who are interested in that department of art.

CATEL (Village and Church).

(Distance from the Harbour, 2½ miles W.)

The parish and village of "St. Mary of the Castle" are so generally denominated Câtel (except, indeed, when the word is pronounced *cattle*), that no one in Guernsey would recognise any other name. The church is said to have been built in the twelfth century, in commemoration of an attack of pirates successfully repelled. It is rather an interesting building, and some curious frescoes were laid bare on the walls during the repairs of the church some years ago. It stands rather high, and nearly in the centre of the island; and the churchyard commands extensive and beautiful sea-views towards the east and north-west. The village offers nothing remarkable, but the vegetation on several estates adjacent is extremely rich and varied. The Câtel may be visited on the road to Richmond, L'Erée, Rocquaine, and other places in the south-west of the island.

A cattle fair is held about 200 yards from the church at Easter, Midsummer, and Michaelmas. It is worth a visit.

CHATEAU DES MARAIS. (See Ivy Castle.)

COBO (Bay and Church).

(Distance from Harbour, about 3¼ miles.)

Cobo Bay occupies the middle place among a group of magnificent bays on the western coast of Guernsey. It is moderately large, and not enclosed by high cliffs. It has beautiful sands, admirably adapted for bathing, and is well calculated to be a bathing-station for St. Peter Port. There are, however, no machines, and no regular conveyances to and from the town.

The northern end of Cobo Bay is terminated by a picturesque reef of granite called the Grande Rocque. All along the shores of the bay, as well as at this extremity, there are numerous pools left at half tide, forming natural aquaria, in which beautiful and often rare specimens of sea anemones, sponges, corallines, crustacea, and fishes, may be found. Sea-weeds also abound, and the rocks are clothed with a great variety of lichens, presenting brilliant tints of colour. Samphire may often be found in abundance among the fissures of these rocks.

Near the southern end of the bay there is excellent fishing; and on the shore there is a convenient and well-conducted inn (Munday's Hotel), where the tourist will not only find good food, but may take up his quarters at night with great advantage.

Cobo Church is small and modern, but it is far the prettiest and best architectural building in Guernsey, except the Town Church at St. Peter Port.

CORBIÈRE.

(Distance from Harbour, about 5 miles S.W.)

One of the headlands on the south coast between Moye Point and Les Tielles, on which the cormorants or sea-ravens (corbières) are accustomed to build. The Corbière exhibits much varied scenery, and the rocks seen from a distance are very striking, because of several veins of dark-green colour which traverse the pink and gray granites of the cliff. The rocks are crossed in various directions, sometimes horizontally, but more frequently vertically, by these singular veins.

CREVICHON.

A small islet between Herm and Jethou, looking towards Guernsey. It has some vegetable growth upon it, but is too small to be inhabited. There is an old quarry on it, which forms a picturesque object at a little distance.

CREUX MAHIE.

(Distance from Harbour, about 6½ miles W.S.W.)

The largest cavern in Guernsey, situated about a mile from the Corbière, on the south coast of the island. The approach is not difficult, but the mouth of the cavern is almost closed by large blocks of stone, either drifted up by the sea or fallen in from above. A vein of decomposing rock, entering the cliff nearly at right angles, is the origin of this, as of many of the caverns in the Channel Islands. When once entered,

the space is found to be large for a granite cavern, opening out into a natural hall, 200 feet long, with a width of 40 or 50 feet, and a height of from 40 to 60 feet. Beyond this there are smaller crevices.

FERMAIN BAY.

(Distance from Harbour, 2 miles S.)

A pretty, sandy, and rocky bay, convenient for bathing; reached by a path out of the St. Martin's road, about a mile from the outskirts of St. Peter Port. It is used for ball-practice by the militia and troops. It is possible to land here in small boats at certain times of the tide, and a martello-tower, with a small sea-wall and battery, have been placed there. A dangerous cluster of rocks, at no great distance, is pointed out by a land-mark on the cliff behind, from which, and from a ruined chapel, the views of the Russel are very fine.

Fermain is the first bay on the east coast of the island south of the fort. Two or three charming little residences and a number of cottages overlook the bay, and the grounds of one of them, Bon Air (built and inhabited by a former Bailiff of the island), run down from the St. Martin's road almost to the sea. Nothing can be imagined more charming than the mixture of wild vegetation and rough rocky scenery in this part of the island.

FERRIERE ROCKS.

A number of rocks rising out of comparatively deep water, in sharp, jagged, and dangerous pinnacles,

almost due south of Jethou, for a distance of about two miles. Between these rocks are dangerous passages for small boats. They form a line between the east coast of Guernsey and the coast of Sark. The southernmost rock rises out of twenty fathoms of water sheer down on three sides, and is connected with Sark by two rocky pinnacles and an island.

FORT GEORGE.

A large and strong fortress, situated south of St. Peter Port, and commanding Castle Cornet and the whole passage of the Little Russel. It mounts a number of heavy guns towards the sea, and is tenable from the land side, if properly defended, for about thirty days. It is believed that it could only be taken by an enemy having the command of the English Channel. A road runs through the fort, and paths from the new walks on the Terres conduct into it from the cliff side. The *enciente* of the fort includes several small but extremely picturesque little coves, but the cliffs near these have been carefully scarped and rendered inaccessible. Magnificent views are obtained from several points within the fort. This fort, and the principal fort at Alderney, are the only really defensible points in the Channel Islands, except against a sudden attack.

GOUFFRE.

(Distance from Harbour, 4½ miles S.W.)

A kind of abyss formed by the rocky cliffs at the extremity of a narrow gorge between Moye Point and

the Corbière, on the south side of the island. A very small stream winds along through the gorge and over the edge of the cliff, where it terminates. The scenery is very grand, and is reached from the Forest church without difficulty. There is a good hotel here.

GRAND HAVRE.

(Distance from Harbour, 3 miles N.)

A good-sized bay in the north-west of the island, close to l'Ancresse Common. This inlet formerly continued past the Vale church, where it now terminates. At that time the water occasionally covered the low lands now called the Vale, connecting the Grand Havre with St. Sampson's harbour.

GRANDE ROCQUE.

(Distance from Harbour, 3½ miles N.W.)

A picturesque headland, forming the northern extremity of Cobo Bay, on the western side of the island. The views from the low headlands of granite, over the vast rocky floors covered with sea-weed, are singularly varied in colour and outline. At the time of vraicking they are alive with men, women, and children, who rush madly hither and thither conveying the sea-weed into safe places before the tide has risen too high.

GULL CLIFF.

(Distance from Harbour, 5½ miles S.W.)

One of the many broken and rocky little promontories between Les Thielles and Pleinmont Point.

From this headland round Pleinmont Point to Pezerie is one succession of unrivalled views of cliff scenery of the grandest kind. The countless gulls that hover round the almost detached rock called Gull Cliff well justify the name, and the security with which they breed is proof of the inaccessible nature of the recesses among the rocks. (See PLEINMONT.)

HANOIS or HANWAYS.

(Distance from Pleinmont Cliff, 1½ miles W.)

A group of rocks very dangerous to vessels approaching Guernsey from down channel, but easily recognised by day. They are situated on the south-western extremity of the island, and are marked by a lighthouse recently erected. These rocks form a group, and are an extension, or rather an outlying fragment, of the island of Guernsey. At high-water the waves dash angrily on the shore between and among the half-detached rocks, concealing the numerous ledges and reefs that everywhere abound in their vicinity. The Hanois rocks are not easy of access except in very calm weather.

HAYE DU PUITS.

An interesting specimen of one of the old manor-houses of Guernsey. It belonged to the Le Marchant family, and has been lately restored. Like most of the island houses it is so placed as carefully to exclude a view of the sea—a matter not very easy in so small an island as Guernsey, without many valleys or other

depressions. The house is somewhat quaint, having several curious turrets and projections. The grounds are remarkable for the beauty and size of the ilex and other trees planted in them.

HERM.

(Distance of landing-place from Harbour, 8 miles E. ¼ N.)

A small island in the Little Russel, opposite the northern part of the east coast of Guernsey. The part permanently above water is an irregular oval, measuring about a mile and a half from south to north, and three quarters of a mile across. It is surrounded at low-water by a vast field of rocks. The north side of the island has two remarkable shell beaches, one looking to the west and north, and the other to the east. The island is higher on the southern and eastern sides than on the north and west, but the summit is nearly flat.

The access to Herm is by a steam-boat from St. Peter Port. A fisherman resident on the island, frequently passes backwards and forwards. Good boats can be hired in Guernsey. Great care should be taken that the boatmen hired are familiar with the navigation to Herm; for, though the distance is not more than three miles, the tides and currents are so complicated, and the winds coming between the islands so dangerous on approaching or leaving the little island, that accidents are not unfrequent, and almost always serious. Occasionally a steam-boat makes the excursion from Guernsey. The landing place at Herm is very

indifferent. It is a small pier formerly constructed for loading granite. There is little shelter.

Fair accommodation may be had at a small house near the landing-place, and elsewhere on the island. Herm is well worth a visit, and will take many hours to explore thoroughly. Provisions are obtained from Guernsey.

The present holder of Herm under the Crown is a gentleman who lives on the island, and occupies himself in agricultural pursuits.

The central table-land of Herm is cultivated, but the slopes towards the sea and near the cliffs are covered with brambles and gorse. It is difficult to walk over them, but always possible to get down to the rocks on the shore.

The scenery of the coast is remarkable. A beautiful white and black granite rock forms the hard backbone. It may be recognised at intervals around the coast, sometimes projecting from the ground in jagged pinnacles, sometimes seen in boulders and detached rocks. This granite is intersected by veins, and deep ravines have been cut by the sea at various places, terminating in small caverns. Where the vein is soft it turns readily into soil; a great thickness of sand and gravel exists at the surface, and the entrances to the caverns are, in these cases, deeply and richly fringed with ferns, whose brilliant metallic green singularly and beautifully contrasts with the peculiar square, hard lines, produced by the parallel walls and straight top of the sides and roof.

Besides these caverns, eaten in by the sea, there is also a noble *creux* * in this little island. The origin of this creux is clearly to be traced to the action of water from the surface; and is quite unconnected with the sea; although, no doubt, when the water had once made its way downwards and a channel at the bottom was opened, the carrying away of the fallen rubbish greatly facilitated the enlargement of the hole above.

Singularly wild and picturesque are the rocky bits to be seen at the back of Herm. Some rocks, now quite detached at half tide, are worn into battlements and pinnacles. Some are blackened, and present all the features of a ruined mediæval castle. Some large, flat expansions of hard, but much weathered rock, afford a kind of irregular pavement, on which those shod with stout boots can walk pleasantly enough, except when it is interrupted by deep fissures with vertical walls, serving as inlets to the sea. Here and there is a Cyclopean mass of ruined masonry of nature's own construction.

The granite of Herm has been quarried to some extent. It is good, but seems to decompose more rapidly than that of Guernsey.

The land of Herm is in many parts rapidly encroached on by the sea. All round the southern and eastern shores there is evidence of very recent landslips, and it is quite evident that every season must

* The word *creux* (a hollow space) is applied in Guernsey to a cavern, but here and in Sark it means rather a funnel-shaped depression or shaft, communicating at the bottom with the sea by a kind of tunnel. Occasionally the walls of this tunnel are broken away.

produce a change, and that the destruction can hardly cease so long as the island holds together.

Numerous rabbits abound both here and in the adjacent still smaller island of Jethou. The rabbits take advantage of the sandy sub-soil, where the granite has become rotten, and the long holes they burrow weaken the face of the cliff, by facilitating the passage of water.

A very large and beautiful expanse of pure, fine shell sand, containing numerous beautiful and some rare shells, is to be seen round the north coast of Herm. These sands are the result of the peculiar set of the currents. They are much visited in summer, but few visitors to Herm think it necessary to do more than make a pilgrimage to one of the bays in which they are found. The naturalist should visit both.

There is good fresh water in Herm, but no trees. The island is commanded by the guns of Fort George, and is not defended or occupied in a military sense.

A small fort is built on a detached rock (Brehou) between the northern part of Herm and Guernsey. It is of little use.

ICART.

(Distance from the Harbour, about 3 miles S. ¼ W.)

A headland (almost detached) on the south coast of Guernsey. Between this point and Jerbourg to the east is the bay called Moulin Huet, and between it and Moye Point to the west is another bay, sometimes called the Baie d'Icart. A road conducts to Icart. Branching off from the road from St. Martin's to the

Forest church, and passing a house called "La Villette," we come upon a steep slope of ground, thinly covered with coarse grass, and often very slippery. Down this slope any one accustomed to clamber may walk securely enough to a very narrow neck of land, almost corresponding in appearance to the Coupé of Sark, but on a smaller scale. The sea on both sides has at this point eaten away a narrow passage, through a vein of soft rock, leaving a natural causeway about five or six feet wide, and several yards in length, on either side of which is a precipice of some sixty or eighty feet.

The sea and rock-views, both from the extremity of the Point and from the shore below, which can be reached at low water, are very fine. From the higher point the whole of the two receding sweeps of coast, the one east to Jerbourg, and the other west to Moye Point, are within view.

The highest part of Guernsey is at Haut-nez above Icart Point. It is 349 feet above mean tide.

IVY CASTLE, or CHATEAU DES MARAIS.

(Distance from the Harbour, about 1 mile N.)

A curious ruin, surrounded by traces of a fosse and by an outer wall, enclosing a space of about four acres. It is said to have been built A.D. 1036, under the auspices of Robert *le diable*, Duke of Normandy, who was sheltered in the island by the monks of St. Michael after a narrow escape from shipwreck. It lies not far from the shore in the middle of Belgrave Bay, half way between St. Peter Port and St. Sampson's.

JERBOURG.

(Distance from the Harbour, about 2½ miles S. by E.)

The southern extremity of Guernsey is a promontory, on which is a column to the memory of Sir John Doyle, a former governor, to whom the island is indebted for its roads and for numerous material improvements. Across the isthmus, connecting the promontory with the main island, are the remains of a fosse, or *caer-dyke*, connected with a fortification. No doubt the Celtic word *Caer* is the origin of the modern *Jer*.

The views from the extremity of this headland are very fine, and it is quite unnecessary to ascend the column in order to enjoy them. The height of the cliff at the base of the column is about 300 feet; and the cliffs, though they may be scaled, are very bold, and in parts nearly perpendicular. The fief of Jerbourg has belonged to the Sausmarez family for five centuries; and the manor-house is on the road not far from the turning by which the column is approached.

JETHOU.

(Distance from the Harbour, about 3 miles E.)

This island is separated from the southern extremity of Herm by a channel which is only a few hundred yards in width at low-water, and is very shallow. It is small, but high, and the sides are precipitous. A dwelling-house and other buildings are upon it, and it is covered with vegetation, consisting of a small plantation and several clumps of trees, besides culti-

vated fields. It is about a mile and a half in circumference. It abounds with rabbits, which form its chief value; and the stone is considered to be of good quality, though the quarries are not now worked. Jethou is surrounded by islets and rocks.

KING'S MILLS.

(Distance from the Harbour, 3½ miles W.)

One of the prettiest hamlets in the interior of Guernsey, situated near one of the prettiest estates (Woodlands). It lies on the road running round the island, and is about a mile from the sea, looking over low ground to Vazon Bay and Richmond Barracks. A small stream runs through it, turning some mills, and entering the sea in the Grand Mare, or great marsh, at the head of Vazon Bay. It is backed by wooded hills, and three windmills are on the high ground adjacent. A very beautiful wooded walk leads along the banks of the little stream to the top of the hill, from which the views are as charming as they are extensive.

L'ANCRESSE. (See ANCRESSE.)

L'EREE, LEREE or LE RE (Promontory and Bay of

(Distance from the Harbour, about 6 miles W. ½ S.)

A very small bay between Rocquaine and Bays, on the north-west coast of Guernsey, the southern horn of the bay proceeds to the island of Lihou. Like Perelle adjacent, L'Erée is rocky and pictur

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high cliffs or large rocks. The name is probably derived from the race or run of the tide between Lihou and the coast of Guernsey adjacent. (See LIHOU.) A curious and perfect cromlech is on the road near this headland. It is called the *Creux es Fées*, or Fairies' Cavern, and should be visited.

LIHOU.

(Distance from the Harbour, 7 miles W.)

An island connected at low-water by a causeway forming the northern horn of Rocquaine Bay, separating Rocquaine from L'Erée Bay.

Lihou is a very interesting locality to the general tourist, as it well represents the scenery and peculiarities of Guernsey. It is especially important to the antiquarian and others to whom historical reminiscences are pleasing, and to the naturalist, who will there find a multitude of rock pools, crowded with sea anemones, rare zoophytes, and sea weeds. Nowhere round the island are there more of these in so limited an area.

Lihou is rectangular in form, and is about 600 yards long by 150 wide—its greatest length being from east to west. The causeway by which it is reached is about '00 yards in length, and is covered at half tide. The of Hs around are singularly wild and broken, and the yards inwill find that the hours between tides are only is small, to explore the ruins and the pools. As the dwelling-house rapidly, great care must be taken to avoid it is covered wi.
plantation and seve remains of a monastic institution.

They have some architectural pretensions, although without much decoration. At the beginning of the present century they included interesting remains of a chapel, dating so far back as the commencement of the twelfth century, some fragments of which may still be traced. They belonged to a priory, which had been surrounded by cultivated land and gardens. It is not unlikely that the island may have been sensibly larger at this period. Some of the objects of interest found in the island are in the Lukis museum.

To the geologist, Lihou offers an example of a raised beach, not very perfect, but with indications quite sufficient to establish the fact. It is also rich in illustrations of the imperfect and irregular weathering of the softer veins of granite, and thence of the harder rock itself.

MOULIN HUET.

(Distance from the Harbour, 2½ miles S.)

This extremely picturesque cove is part of a small bay between Jerbourg and Icart points, on the south-east coast of Guernsey. Besides the regular road, it may be reached by a path past the garden wall of the estate called the Vallon, at St. Martin's, or by one of the celebrated "water-lanes"—charming morsels of scenery, in which wood and water combine with rock scenery of the most picturesque kind, magnificent ferns, and the most brilliant tints of tree vegetation. The paths all descend at first gradually to a kind of terrace, on which are one or two cottages (at one of which tea

and pic-nic parties may be supplied), and thence there is a sudden descent down the cliff side to the beach.

It is not necessary to attempt a description of the singularly exquisite views of rock-scenery obtained in this little nook. They are in some respects unrivalled in the Channel Islands, and every one who visits Guernsey is expected to make this one of the first excursions. The distance from the town is not three miles. One may wander for hours among the rocks at the foot; and at low-water it is possible to proceed to a considerable distance, especially on the Jerbourg side. It is necessary, however, to be careful, for the tide rises with extreme rapidity, and one's retreat may easily be cut off. In such case, in some of the inlets escape would be very difficult. The wall of cliff rises for two or three hundred feet, often nearly vertical, and the water is soon deep enough to render wading dangerous. Detention for some hours, till the tide recedes, is generally the only result, but this is not a pleasant one; and about the time of spring tides, especially when certain winds are blowing, the danger may be more serious.

To the zoologist and marine botanist, Moulin Huet is very interesting, especially at extreme low-water; and the geologist will also find several points worthy of careful study. Among these we may direct attention to a cavern near the descent to the sea, where there are some curious accumulations of drifted gravel, and also to some curious lanes and ridges running out directly towards the sea. There are also some curious veins.

A rich harvest of ferns, especially of the broad-leaved hart's-tongue—innumerable brambles meeting overhead, and loaded with fruit in the autumn—a carpet of flowers in the spring;—these are beauties that the reader may say are neither confined to water-lanes nor to the island of Guernsey; but they are very pleasing and charming in the narrow winding path leading to Moulin Huet, with its stream of pure water sparkling through the middle, and the granite here and there showing itself in a small quarry. Words do not fitly describe scenes of this kind; but they may be worth something if they remind those who are familiar with such scenes of thoughts and feelings they have suggested, or help the stranger to become acquainted with what he might otherwise pass by. The real source of the beauty of this spot lies, no doubt, in the ever-changing effects at all times and seasons; the freshness and life derived from the running stream; and the exquisite and sudden shifting of the scene, by the occasional introduction of the sea, with its numerous rocks and islets, and the enclosing cliff.

MOYE POINT.

(Distance from the Harbour, 4 miles S.W.)

A fine headland, about the middle of the south coast of Guernsey, forming the western extremity of Icart Bay. It is bold and precipitous, rising at once from tolerably deep water. Beyond it to the west there is a succession of indentations of the coast, of

which the Gouffre and the Corbière are described in a previous page. The views from the Moye Point are very grand, and extend across the bay to Icart Point on the one side, and past a number of fine headlands to Les Thielles on the other.

PERELLE BAY.

A small bay on the north-west coast of Guernsey, between L'Eree and Vazon. It partakes of the general character of the adjacent bays.

PETIT BOT BAY.

(Distance from the Harbour, 3½ miles S.W. by S.)

A small cove forming part of Icart Bay, and opening into that bay from a narrow forked glen, one picturesque branch of which reminds the traveller of Welsh scenery. A small stream runs down it, and turns a mill at the bottom. A pond connected with the stream near the mill is extremely rich in infusorial animalcules and diatoms. The other branch is equally picturesque, but entirely different.

The little cove itself has a wide spit of fine sand at low-water, and at its western end is a bold rocky cavern often visited, and rich in a somewhat rare fern, *asplenium marinum*. The specimens within reach are, however, soon removed, and the fern lover must provide himself with a ladder if he would obtain fine roots.

PETIT PORT.

(Distance from the Harbour, 2¼ miles S.)

An exceedingly diminutive, but marvellously picturesque cove on the western side of Jerbourg promontory, belonging to the bay in which are Moulin Huet and Saints Bay. This cove is occasionally resorted to in moonlight nights in autumn for the fishing of the sand-eel (*lançon*). The descent is steep but not dangerous, the cliffs behind are lofty and precipitous, and the rocks very bold. The scenery is highly characteristic of Guernsey, but the spot is rarely visited, and not easily found without inquiry.

PLEINMONT.

(Distance from the Harbour, 7½ miles W.S.W.)

The south-western extremity of Guernsey bears this name. It is bold, rocky, and precipitous, and abounds with jagged promontories, more or less difficult of access, but fully rewarding the effort required to climb among them by the most glorious views looking out to sea, and down to the seething caldron below. No one who has not spent some time at various hours of the day, and in different states of the weather, on this part of the island can at all appreciate the variety as well as beauty of the scenery. The charm is as great to the artist as it is to the mere lover of the picturesque, and it needs but little to call up all the enthusiasm and poetry of one's nature whilst contemplating the scene, and listening to the mixed call of the sea-

birds and subdued roar of the waves three hundred feet below.

There is a convenient and very good house of entertainment near Pleinmont where the traveller may obtain refreshment, and if necessary a night's lodging. Two or three days might well be spent in exploring the rocks from this point as a centre.

RICHMOND.

(Distance from Harbour, 5 miles W.)

A tower and barracks on a small promontory between Perelle and Vazon bays. There are a few houses near. The neighbourhood is very beautiful. An inn called Munday's Hotel is on the high road at no great distance, and will afford good accommodation either for a single meal or a few days' residence.

ROCQUAINE BAY.

(Distance from Harbour, 7 miles W. by S.)

An extensive bay between Fort Pezerie on the south and Lihou Island on the north. It is the westernmost bay on the coast of Guernsey. In this open bay a vast floor of rocks is laid bare at low water, and covered at high tide, and large sweeps of sand partly conceal them.

Rocquaine Bay is well named, as it presents a bristling array of rocks stretching out seawards more than two miles, and terminating on the south with the Hanois rocks, and to the north by a reef some distance beyond Lihou. "The Bissets" are detached rocks op-

posite the middle of the bay, rising out of deep water. It would be very difficult to mark and number the rocks jutting out of the water at all times of tide in this bay, and the effect seen from the cliff above Pezerie battery is very picturesque.

ST. ANDREW'S.

(Distance of Church from the Harbour, about 2 miles W.S.W.)

A village in the interior of Guernsey. The church is picturesque and well placed. A pretty parsonage, and two or three estates with country houses, are immediately adjacent, and at a convenient distance from the town. St. Andrew's is a favourable specimen of the island churches and villages. A very beautiful valley is reached about half a mile beyond the church, towards the west coast.

ST. APOLLINE.

(Distance from the Harbour, about 4 miles W. by S.)

A very curious relic of antiquity, believed to be one of the original chapels in use in Guernsey, before the present parish churches were erected. There were eleven of these, of which St. Apolline alone remains. It was probably the second in point of date.

Built of rough masonry with thick walls, and of unhewn stones and mortar made from limpet shells, it is simply a chamber of cyclopæan architecture, measuring 27 feet by 13 feet, with a round arch to its door and a narrow window or light divided horizontally by a transom, consisting of a single stone

resting upon two monolithic uprights, themselves placed on a stone of similar character to the upper one. The bottom of this unambitious window with its opening of 48 inches by 13 inches, is but four feet from the ground. There are traces of painting on the walls, but these are of later date than the masonry, which is Norman of the Saxon period.

The chapel is on the road-side a little below the village of St. Saviour's, and may be seen on application at one of the cottages adjacent. This chapel (St. Appeline) is preserved by the States as a relic of the 5th cent.

ST. GEORGE.

(Distance from the Harbour, about 3 miles W. by N.)

An estate on the road from the town to Cobo. The entrance is at the point where the road from St. Peter's Port crosses the main road running parallel to the north-west coast of Guernsey. The grounds are very beautiful, and strangers are permitted to pass through them. A celebrated well is in these grounds, called the "Holy Well," in whose waters, according to tradition, maidens can see the faces of their future husbands. It need not be said that there are many votaries, though it is not recorded that all are successful.

ST. MARTIN'S.

(Distance of Church from the Harbour, about 2 miles S.)

A village and parish church at the southern extremity of the east coast of the island of Guernsey The church has once perhaps been pretty, but is

modernised in the worst taste. One window has recently been restored in better style. The porch at the south entrance is a pretty specimen of rather florid Gothic architecture. A very curious and ancient sculptured figure is set up as a gate-post at the entrance to the churchyard.

PORCH OF ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH, GUERNSEY.

In the village of St. Martin's are a multitude of houses tenanted by occasional visitors to, and residents in the island. The high ground about it, and its position, render it extremely healthy. Saumarez Manor-house is in this parish. It is a fair old-fashioned and solid house. There are some other good houses and pleasant grounds grouped at no great distance from the Church. Moulin Huet and Fermain Bay are both in the parish.

ST. PETER PORT. (See page 98.)

ST. PETER'S IN THE WOOD.

A parish and church in the south-western part of the island of Guernsey, not far from Rocquaine Bay. Torteval is a district chapelry. The church of St. Peter's is handsome, but lies low. The parsonage adjacent is pretty. Torteval is perhaps the ugliest and most unsightly ecclesiastical building in Europe.

ST. SAMPSON'S.

(Distance from Harbour of St. Peter Port to St. Sampson's Harbour, 2 miles S.)

St. Sampson's, the second town in Guernsey, is much smaller than St. Peter Port, and is almost connected with it by houses and rows of buildings along the shore. It is a place of considerable business in connection with the stone trade, which is centred there, to take advantage both of the adjacent quarries and of the little harbour. Many improvements have been made in the harbour, and the town is continually increasing in importance. There is little to attract or interest a stranger, all the buildings, except the church, being small and of modern construction.

The harbour is entirely dry at low-water, and was originally part of a small arm of the sea, which severed the northern portion of the island from the mainland. It is only sixty years since this strait was permanently embanked at each end, and the intervening land re-

claimed. The space forming the harbour is about 2000 feet in length by 500 feet wide, and encloses twenty-two acres of water at high spring tides. A breakwater now extends 650 feet in a southerly direction from the north shore, and terminates 120 feet from the south pier head; and this work, recently completed, has greatly improved and sheltered the harbour.

The church is the oldest in the island, and is said to have been consecrated in the year 1111. It contains nothing interesting. An English service is performed in it every Sunday in addition to the French.

In the neighbourhood of the church and harbour are the great stone quarries for which Guernsey is better known in London than in any other way. Nearly 150,000 tons per annum of kerb and pitchers are exported chiefly to London. The quality is excellent, and the principal quarries are very large, and well worth a visit. It is a blue granite or syenite that is chiefly worked here. Much of the stone is shipped from St. Sampson's Harbour, but a large quantity is put on board at St. Peter's Port.

ST. SAVIOUR'S.

(Distance of the Church from the Harbour, 4 miles W.S.W.)

One of the prettiest parts of the interior of Guernsey is that part of the parish of St. Saviour's that extends between the church and Perelle Bay.

The tourist should not fail to drive or walk through St. Andrew's, past the estate called Vaubellets, to the

church of St. Saviour, after which he can visit St. Apolline's Church (already described), and thence proceed on foot along the high ground, or at once descend to the sea in Perelle Bay.

SAINTS BAY,

(Distance from the Harbour, about 3 miles S. ¼W.)

Probably *Baie de Seine* from the fishing-net so called —a charming little nook between Moulin Huet and the rocks below Icart Point, reached by a path in the cliff from Moulin Huet, or by another path from St. Martin's Mill. There is a small round tower on the hill-side. Saints Bay is a retired and safe bathing-place.

LES TERRES.

The name given to the grounds beyond the new harbour, and below Fort George. Very beautiful and convenient public walks have been constructed below part of the cliff south of the harbour. These were formed during and in connection with the harbour works, by the removal of material required for filling up some of the spaces occupied by rocks in the harbour. Much credit is due to Mr. Lyster, the engineer of the harbour works, for thus converting what might have produced a very unsightly appearance, into the supplying of a great desideratum in the way of public walks. A part formerly called La Vallete is now converted into these walks, which extend about a mile from the pier, and are beautifully laid out and planted.

TORTEVAL. (See ST. PETER'S IN THE WOOD.)

VALE, OR BRAYE DU VAL.

(Distance of Church from the Harbour, 2½ miles.)

This name is applied to a low tract formerly covered by the sea, extending across the northern part of Guernsey and separating L'Ancresse from the rest of the island. At one end (the west) is the Vale Church, and the other, or east end, is marked by the Vale Castle. There is a curious pond or stew between them of considerable interest to naturalists.

The Vale Church is at the entrance of l'Ancresse Common. There was a church here in the twelfth century, of which part of the walls are believed to exist, but the present building is much more modern. It is a good parish church, with two aisles, a tower, a chapel on the north side, and a porch on the same side. This porch is exceedingly curious in its style of construction.

The large pond near the church is of brackish water, but not too salt for cattle. It contains, however, a very curious admixture of fresh-water and marine animals and plants. Fresh-water eels are accompanied by mullet, turbot, flounders, and plaice. At one end are reeds, and in the same water, at a little distance, are living sea-weeds. Shore shells abound, with sea anemones and pond molluscs.

Vale Castle has long ceased to have any other use than as a small barrack, but the exterior is not with-

out a certain amount of picturesque effect, and the view from the slightly raised ground outside is one of the prettiest in Guernsey. The eye takes in at once the wooded scenery of the Vale and the rising ground thence towards the Câtel, the town of St. Peter Port stretching out below in a semicircle, and the coast view terminating with the harbour and Castle Cornet. Behind this is an upper terrace—the high plateau of the south of the island, which rises boldly, and is seen as far as Jerbourg. At one's feet is the harbour of the St. Sampsons, with its shipping. Turning round, innumerable rocks are perceived at low-water, almost connecting l'Ancresse with Herm; and another totally different, but almost equally picturesque view, is obtained over the northern part of Guernsey.

VAZON.

(Distance from Harbour, 4 miles W.)

A picturesque rocky bay on the north-west coast of Guernsey, between Perelle and Cobo bays, remarkable as being the site of an ancient submerged forest, portions of which are occasionally thrown on shore during and after heavy gales from the south-west. Being a tolerably good fuel, and coming in a manner which appeared mysterious, the fragments thus thrown up have been called by the islanders *corban* or *gorban*—meaning by this scriptural expression (*corban*, "a gift") that they looked on it as a providential, if not a miraculous supply of fuel.

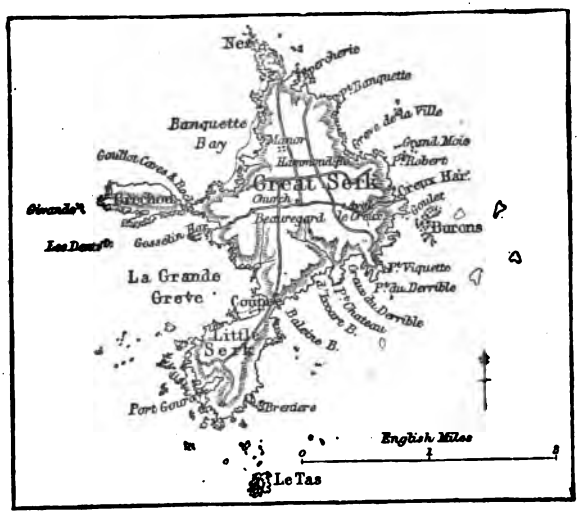
The principal patch of the sea-bottom thus covered

with the remains of ancient forests is estimated at about 32 acres, and it has been dug into in some places to a depth of 20 feet. It is not often thrown up in any quantity, and seems to have been first recognised in 1757, and first used for fuel about fifty years afterwards. A large supply was obtained in 1847. Pottery and stone instruments have been found with the forest remains.

Vazon Bay is interesting historically as having served as the landing-place of a large body of French troops in the fourteenth century. Much sea-weed or vraic is obtained from this bay during the season. The Richmond barracks are on the little headland forming its southern horn.

A small stream, approaching Vazon Bay from the interior, but terminating in a marsh (Grand Mare), is no doubt connected with the history of the submerged forest already alluded to.

GUERNSEY FISHING-BOAT.


Nez
Banquette Bay
Great Serk
Havre Gosselin
Grande
Les Dents
La Grande Greve
Little Serk
Port Gorey
Le Tas
English Miles

MAP OF SERK.

SERK.

Position and Magnitude.—A group of islands, islets, and rocks, about 5 miles in length, and 3 miles in breadth, distant about 7 miles west of Guernsey, and 24 miles west of the French coast. The principal island (called Serk) is rather more than 3 miles from north to south, and about 1½ mile across. Other islands (Brechou and the Burons) extend on each side, increasing the width of the group to 3 miles. The shape of Serk is peculiar, as it consists of two parts connected by an extremely narrow neck. The northern part is the larger, and is more than 2 miles long. It is called Great Serk. The southern division, or Little Serk, is less than a mile in length, and narrow. The connecting isthmus is called the Coupée. *Area*, 1274 statute acres. *Population* in 1871, 546.

Both Great and Little Serk are table-lands, the general level being about 300 feet above mean tide, and the highest point 365 feet. The islands adjoining are not so lofty.

Communication.—There are sound sea-boats that make the passage from Guernsey during the summer at frequent intervals when the weather will permit. The island is, however, very difficult of approach. During summer, steamers run generally once a-week from Jersey, and more frequently from Guernsey, making the island in about one hour from the former, and two hours from the latter island. They return the same afternoon. Landing is by small boats, and is only possible in favourable weather.

Accommodation.—"Gavey's Hotel," new, good, quiet, well-appointed, and well attended to. Board and lodging 5s. per day; wines good. "Belair Hotel," new, and well spoken of. Lodgings at Dos d'Ane. Others over the Post-office, large and clean. Small lodgings in many of the houses are clean and comfortable. Meat is difficult to obtain, except at the inns, and

has to be brought over from Guernsey; but poultry, fish, and lobsters, are almost always to be had, and bread, milk, and eggs are not likely to fail.

Language.—The language of Serk is a patois somewhat different both from that of Jersey and Guernsey, but more resembling the former. There is no Serk literature, either ancient or modern.

Climate.—The inhabitants of Guernsey are in the habit of removing to Serk for a bracing and invigorating change. How far the difference would affect a stranger is not clear, but that the climate, though damp, is extremely healthy there cannot be a doubt. A medical man is always in residence throughout the year, his salary being guaranteed.

The wild scenery of the vertical wall of rock which surrounds Serk is wonderfully enhanced in beauty and picturesque effect by the caverns with which it is everywhere penetrated, and the huge isolated masses of rock, often pierced with large natural vaults or tunnels, that form a kind of advanced guard in every direction, appearing to repel for a time the action of the waves, but really only serving as proofs of the destruction thus caused. Nowhere can the destroying power of the sea be better studied than in the grand scenes presented at every point round this remarkable island. Detached portions of the main island, others nearly detached, and only connected by natural bridges or narrow necks of land, huge vaults through which the sea dashes at all times, or into which it penetrates only at high-water, fragments of rock of all dimensions, some jagged and recently broken, some—and these the hardest and toughest—rounded and smooth, vast piles of smaller rocks heaped around: all these offer abundant illustrations of nature's course when the elements meet on the

battle-field of an exposed coast, the tidal wave undermining and tearing asunder even the hardest porphyries and granites, however they may seem to present a bold front, and bear the reputation of being indestructible.

The small bays, detached rocks, and pierced rocks and caverns, are the chief objects of interest in Serk; and they are so not only to the lover of the picturesque, and to the artist who dares undertake to represent what many will deem unnatural, but also to the naturalist in all departments. The geologist will here find many interesting studies. Many beautiful and interesting minerals may here be obtained, and much may be learnt as to the way in which these minerals were formed. The botanist will not, perhaps, discover many new plants; but there are known kinds under peculiar conditions of growth, for the climate is singularly favourable to certain kinds of vegetation, owing to its average temperature and constant moisture, without much cold. But chiefly will the lover of marine zoology be rewarded for the trouble of visiting this spot. Nowhere in Europe, under the most favourable circumstances, can so great a wealth of animal life be found within a small space as in some of the Serk caverns. These are as remarkable for their extraordinary grandeur and beauty, as for the singular multitude and variety of the zoophytes they contain.

The ordinary and best landing-place in Serk is called the Creux; but before attempting a description of it, let us first present to the reader a general outline of the coast scenery of the whole island. Approaching

the island from the south, we first reach and pass a small island called Le Tas, near which are some fine detached rocks on the shore, and a large cave. Beyond this, to the east, small recesses are seen in the vertical cliff; one of them clothed with green to the water's edge, at a point where a narrow opening conducts to a kind of large open funnel, called the Pot. With some little difficulty this can be descended from the top, and the fringe of ferns and other plants around it, with the curious appearance of the opening seen from below, render it well worthy of a visit. Past the Pot is another smaller bay, with caverns, to which there is no land access; and then comes a third bay, with a pebble beach, immediately below the eastern and most perpendicular side of the celebrated *Coupée*, the narrow neck connecting Great and Little Serk. After this is an exceedingly broken and wild larger bay, in which are many caverns and large rocks, entirely pierced through. The shore here, as indeed everywhere, is covered with large, angular and rolled rocks. This is d'Ixcart Bay, and towards it a very pretty valley comes down from the interior of the island. The valley, however, terminates at a steep cliff.

There then succeed two singular points of land, the Point du Chateau, connecting which with the interior is a curious ridge called the Hog's Back, and the Point du Derrible.* The latter headland is separated from

* This headland and the Creux are generally spoken of and described as Point Terrible and the Creux Terrible. There is, however, no doubt that the word *Terrible* is a corruption of *Derrible*, an old French word, signifying a fallen mass of rock.

the cliffs by a nearly vertical gap, but not by a sea passage.

A comparatively narrow inlet, enclosed by these two headlands, terminates in a fine rocky bay, within which are many caverns, and also the entries to one of those curious funnel-shaped openings called *creux*, of which the Pot in Little Serk, and several others round the coast, are less perfect examples.

The "Creux du Derrible," as this is called, is a large natural shaft or chimney, communicating below with the sea, and opening above into a field. It resembles the shaft of a mine, and a wild growth of brambles and furze surrounds the opening, one side of which is much lower than the other. To look down requires a steady head, for the walls are absolutely vertical, and only overgrown with vegetation round the outer rim, where a small earthen wall has been built to keep off stragglers. There is, however, little real danger. At high-water the sea rushes in below by two large entrances; one wave following another with a rapidity and force only possible where the water has but a few hours to rise thirty or forty feet into a funnel-shaped land-locked bay. The white foam of the angry water rises high in the cave, and is said in former times, when the entrance was narrower, to have splashed up nearly to the top during severe storms. The roar of the waves, and the disturbance caused by the rolling of the pebbles and boulders over the floor, reverberates in the shaft. Such is the Creux du Derrible at high-water, and then a nearer view is impossible.

But it may be visited under other circumstances. It is possible, though not very easy, to make a descent by a narrow winding path, overgrown with ivy, to the brink of a cliff, down which, by the help of some iron rings fastened in the rock, one can reach the bay, into which, at the further extremity, the Creux opens. A wild rocky beach, covered with boulders, being crossed, we reach a yawning cavern, having a somewhat regular entry. It is one of two natural tunnels, about 100 feet long, that lead to an amphitheatre, having an oval floor, covered with pebbles, about 100 feet in length by 50 feet across.

Within the amphitheatre the walls of naked rock rise 150 feet or more in height, and are quite perpendicular. The colour of the rock varies. At the furthest extremity from the sea is a vein of rich, reddish-brown, clayey material; but around, and on the floor, are several kinds of granite, and much hard stratified schistose rock is seen. The variety of colour, arising partly from the different weathering of the rock, and partly from lichens, is very striking. The stillness, broken only by the waves as they break over the pebbles; the blue sky or fleecy clouds seen through the opening above; the bright, sharply-defined rocks of the Point du Derrible visible through one of the entrances, and a part of Jersey through the other; a little overhanging vegetation at the top, and the rolled pebbles of the floor: these form together a variety of scenery rarely approached in majesty and picturesque beauty.

Beyond the entrances to the Creux, the wet rocks,

covered with sea-weed, may safely be crossed during a receding tide, and another small bay is then entered, in which is a vast detached rock, pierced with a natural arch, while beyond this again is another detached mass —a group of pinnacles, somewhat resembling one of the Autelets*—which is, however, in so insecure a state, that it may perhaps be washed away, or at any rate greatly modified, before another season arrives. Woe to the unhappy tourist who is found here after the tide begins to rise. Without climbing over a mass of steep, jagged rock, he will be cut off from the open bay of the Creux; and should he succeed in reaching this, he may still miss the approach to the ascent and be kept on the beach for some hours.

Between d'Ixcart Bay and the Creux harbour, one can find rough paths along the cliffs, which afford many admirable points of view. From the Hog's back, a long, narrow ridge of hard rock, formerly a place of refuge,† and now marked by a tower, one is enabled to see not only d'Ixcart Bay, but Little Serk and the outline of the peculiar jagged depression over which the Coupée road passes, revealing the true nature of that curious isthmus, and justifying the name given to it. The castellated rocks of the Point du Derrible, and the noble form of the extremity of that jutting, rocky mass, are also here seen to great advantage.

* The *Autelets*, or small altars, are detached pinnacles of rock, well known to all visitors to Serk.—See p. 153.

† Like Jerbourg and other places in Guernsey, these promontories were, no doubt, rendered defensible against the chance attacks of pirates.

From one part of the cliffs, beyond the Point du Derrible, a descent conducts us to a fisherman's cove, just opposite the Creux harbour, sheltered by a small, rocky island, but not connected with any bay. The singular form and picturesque outline of the Burons is here well seen, although their number cannot be made out; and they rather resemble a few large islands than a group of rocks entirely detached at high-water.

The Creux harbour was till lately one of the most curious of the Serk wonders. It was very small, and sheltered by a little breakwater, leaving an entry only just wide enough for a small boat. The breakwater was destroyed in the storms of the winter of 1865-6, and is being rebuilt on a somewhat larger scale. From the old breakwater there was no appearance of a practicable road into the island. It was necessary to enter before seeing the gloomy tunnel that alone gives access to the road. So singularly concealed was the approach, that the Lords of the Admiralty, arriving at Serk a few years ago on their tour of inspection and intending to land, actually did land on the breakwater; but there being no human being in sight, and no one knowing the state of the case, or seeing the tunnel, their lordships gave up the task as hopeless, and returned on board in search of less difficult landing-places; and better known, if less picturesque spots.*

* It has been decided to expend a sum of £4000 in increasing and improving the Creux harbour, removing the remains of the demolished breakwater, and constructing a new tunnel nearly at right angles to the old tunnel, and of which the entrance will be visible from the new breakwater. Their Lordships of the Admiralty may then visit this part of their dominion.

A pretty valley opens to the back of the tunnel, and communicates with the harbour. A road also passes through this valley to the table-land above.

It is curious that neither this nor the adjoining valley (d'Ixcart Valley, known among the English visitors as Baker's Valley), are open quite down to the sea, both terminating in a precipitous, though not lofty cliff. Until the tunnel was bored and made the direct road, the Epercherie* was the chief landing-place. From the Creux harbour, and from the hill above, very beautiful views of the Burons are obtained, altogether different from those before described. All the rocks are now perceived, with the passages between them, and they look small and almost grotesque. To the left is another corresponding group of rocks, projecting beyond the southern arm of the bay, called the Grève de la Ville; and as there is a small intermediate inlet, the view is symmetrical and exceedingly picturesque.

The Grève de la Ville is a wide sweep of pebble and rocky beach, with a double group of caverns at its southern extremity, connected with a large arched rock,—the "Chapelle ès Mauve."

These caverns are only accessible at low-water, and are not easily visited. The shingles here do not afford a landing-place, but the bay can be entered from above, and there is good anchorage. Boats are moored at a point called the Banquet, and a rough

* *Esperquerie*—the harvest of dried fish; from *perques*, the perches or poles on which the fish was hung up to dry. The name thus derived is now applied to the place where the drying was carried on.

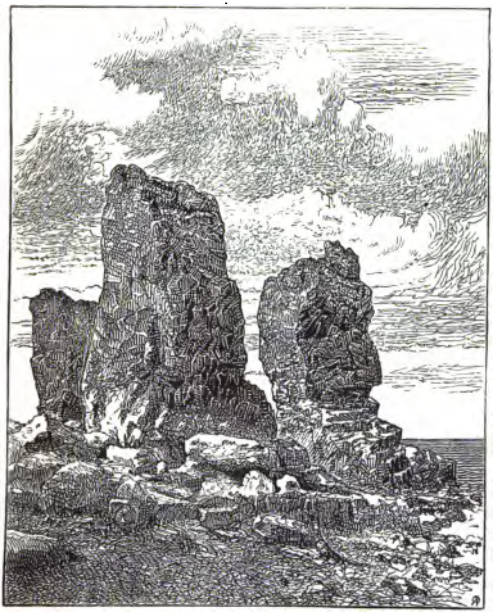
road leads to the top. Beyond this is the Epercherie, in some states of the weather a more convenient harbour than the Creux; and it is seriously contemplated to make this once more the principal landing-place of Serk.

We now approach the northern extremity of the island, which, like all the rest of the rocky coast, is penetrated by noble caverns and cut into shreds by the mixed action of weather and the sea. The principal caves are the "Boutiques," a group eminently characteristic of the island, and highly interesting and instructive. They are best entered from above, at a point where an island is nearly formed by the action of the sea upon a vein of soft clayey mineral. At the foot of this narrow cleft are piled gigantic boulders of granite; but about half way down is a transverse cleft of considerable length; the roof not yet fallen in, and the floor composed of rocks, whose edges and corners are still sharp and angular. At the end of this is an opening to the sea to the left, and a continuance of this opening into the solid rock by caverns to the right. Beyond, is a continuation of the main cleft to the extreme point of the island. Not possessing the rich lining of zoophytes seen in the Gouliots, this series of caverns is less interesting to the zoologist; but as illustrating the mode in which Sark is being destroyed, there can be imagined nothing more striking or more instructive to the geologist.

Round the Nez,* as the little island north of Serk

* Judging from old maps, as well as from the probabilities

is called, and past the entrance to the Boutiques, we come to a confused pile of rocks, extending to a pretty



AUTELET ROCKS, SERK.

bay (Seignie Bay), whence are seen the detached islets called the Autelets, one of the most picturesque

of the case, not only has the Nez become recently detached, but the land formerly stretched out to some distance towards the north, with a greater breadth than at present. The appearance of the fallen and still angular blocks, contrasted with the perfect roundness of those that have been longer exposed, testifies to the fact of considerable destruction in a short period.

groups of rocky masses around Serk. A footpath has been constructed down the face of the cliff, chiefly in a vein containing iron and manganese ore, so that the little bay can sometimes be reached; but the vein is so soft that falls constantly take place, and the path is not always practicable. The view, shut in by the steep face of rock, the picturesque "Autelets" on one side, and the pile of angular masses of granite on the shore, is extremely fine. At low-water there is a walk quite round to the Port du Moulin, beyond which again is a noble, detached rocky mass, the Tintageu;* and then another bay, the Grand Pegane, and the Port de la Jument. Beyond the latter is the Moie de Mouton, a nearly detached rock, forming a sort of promontory, approachable only by a boat. Like the Point du Derrible on the opposite side of the island, and other rocks of its kind, of which we have already mentioned so many, it is strikingly bold, angular, and apparently capable of resisting almost indefinitely the grinding action of the tidal and storm wave. But like the rest, it is on the road to destruction; and some other mass, now a part of Serk, will succeed it in due time. There is no access to the shore beyond the Moie de Mouton till the celebrated Gouliot caves are reached. They are approached by a rather troublesome descent from the table-land, the path leading past the Havre Gosselin, which may be conveniently visited on the same excursion. They consist of noble vaulted caverns, piercing a promontory which extends towards, and has origi-

* *Tintageu*—Tint-à-jeu—Tin Tagel (as in Cornwall), the Devil's Castle. One of the very few Celtic words remaining in the Channel Islands

nally been connected with, the Gouliot rock and the island of Brechou (Ile des Merchands). The whole of the rock at and near the water-level, beneath the promontory called the Sault Jehan (John's Leap), is honeycombed in a singular manner, forming a succession of caverns constantly altered by the action of the waves. A very fine view of the Gouliot rock and passage, with the caverns just visible, and the island of Brechou to the left, is obtained from the Havre Gosselin.

The Gouliot caves,* which may at all times be reached from above, can only be thoroughly explored at extremely low tides; and even then, the visitor must be prepared to wade through some depth of water.

The descent was formerly a difficult task to any one not accustomed to cliffing, and not endowed by nature with a steady head. In this case, however, as in many others, there is little danger when there is no fear, and the path has lately been very much improved, so as to allow naturalists and lovers of wild nature to venture with perfect safety into the caves. The path is carried along the rocky face of a small inlet, and terminates on some large rocks covered with black slippery sea-weed and little barnacles, the rocks having been thrown by the sea in its angry moments above the reach of ordinary tides. Over these one has to pick one's way into the first great cave, which is a long natural tunnel, something like the Boutiques, penetrating completely through a small promontory that stretches out beyond the middle of

* *Gouliot.*—Goulot or Goulet, a narrow inlet, like the neck of a bottle.—*Anglice*, the gullet.

the west coast of Serk, and separated from the island of Brechou and the Gouliot rock by a channel, passable at all times. This first cavern is of noble proportions, and the floor is roughly piled with immense boulders, giving many a varied view of the small but picturesque "Havre Gosselin," seen through the opening at the farther extremity. But this cavern, though fine, is, as it were, a mere outer court, preparing us for the glories to be revealed within. Its walls are partly covered with those singular currant-jelly-like animals one sees expanded like living flowers in marine aquaria; deep blood-red is the prevailing colour, but dark olive-green varieties are also common, and numerous yellow and brick-red patches are seen at intervals. A few muscles, and tens of thousands of limpets and barnacles, cover the boulders. Abundance of life is seen, and some of the specimens are as rare as they are beautiful. A branch of the first cavern, in which is a deep pool of water, conducts to the sea; but it is better to wait till low-water and creep round outside. We then enter a gloomy series of vaults lighted from the sea, and communicating with each other by natural passages.

Every square inch of surface is covered with living corallines; and, in some parts, an infinite number of *Tubulariæ* are seen occupying the walls. As it is only at rare intervals that these animals are deprived of water, and the caverns are always damp and gloomy, the conditions are particularly favourable for their development, and their dimensions and

vigour sufficiently prove the healthiness and suitableness of the locality.

The Havre Gosselin succeeds the Gouliots; and in it also are caverns of considerable magnitude. They afford fresh examples of vertical cliffs, connecting with and originating small bays. More caverns and small coves succeed; another little harbour, the Port-és-Sees, is passed, and we then come to the expanse of sand and shingle from which the western and more sloping side of the Coupée commences to rise.

There is a path down to this bay from the Coupée. It is a steep zigzag, not pleasant to descend, although not very difficult of ascent.

The rest of the coast is that of Little Serk. The rocks are somewhat lower here than on the larger division of the island, and there is nothing calling for special remark till we reach the little harbour of Gouray, where, in former times, vessels were moored, bringing stores from Cornwall for the mines adjacent. A large group of rocks and small islands forms a temporary barricade to this part of the island, and keeps off some of the heavy seas that sweep round during the equinoctial gales, and at other seasons.

We have thus completed our survey of the coastline of Serk as it may be seen by walking round it on the cliffs, or sailing along the shores, according as circumstances permit; but the detached islands and rocks cannot often safely to be reached, although the many boats seen moored at all the little landing-places show that the Serk fishermen are not afraid of braving

rough seas and dangerous shores. About twenty small nooks and coves may be counted along the shore, but access to the land from some of them is so difficult, that nothing but necessity would induce any ordinary tourist to undertake the trip.

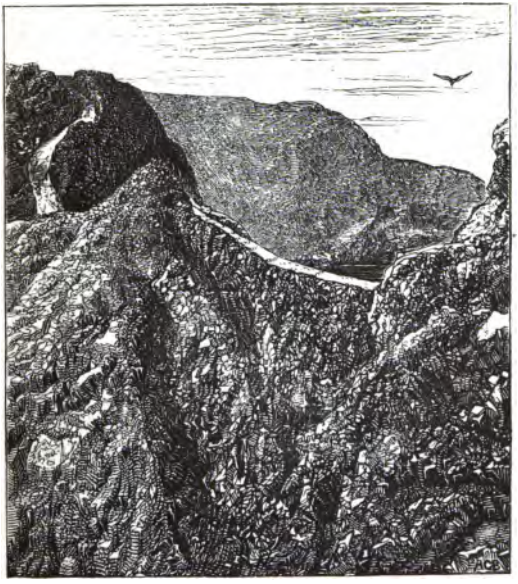
Between Serk and Brechou is the detached rock called the Gouliot Rock, the celebrated Gouliot caverns, already alluded to, opening under the cliffs that face this rock. The water-passage between the Gouliot Rock and Brechou is deep, dark, and dangerous. The current is swift, and varies with the tide, so that at times it would be impossible to row against it. There is, however, depth of water sufficient to float a frigate, and daring sailors, in time of need, have ventured to sail through it.

Like the larger island adjacent, Brechou is almost intersected by caverns and surrounded by picturesque rocks. Seen from the sea—their jagged and varied forms resembling pinnacles and castles, with cormorants standing sentinel on the flat edges, and gulls perched on the commanding heights—these rocks contrast finely with the black overhanging precipices of the island. But the overfalls and the white foam, also visible in the sea near them, give notice of the hidden dangers that lurk beneath, and remind the boatman of the caution that is needed in threading his way through the narrow channels that alone are safe.

It will be evident, then, that there is plenty of work in Serk for several days, even for the most energetic tourist. Many of the points of view can only be seen

to advantage at certain times of tide; whilst some of the descents to the beach include wanderings for one or more hours in romantic caverns.

We have as yet spoken chiefly of the coast, and it is true that this is the chief attraction of Serk. But several hours may well be devoted to visiting the



THE COUPEE, SERK.

gardens and grounds of the Seigneurie, the wooded glade called d'Ixcart Valley, and the magnificent Coupée, the glory of the Channel Islands.

In its present state, the Coupée is deprived of much

of the charm which danger must formerly have lent to so curious a phenomenon; but although more easily visited, it is also preserved from further change by the road that has been constructed across it. Soft veins of clay, deeply cut into by long exposure to weather, have gradually lowered the surface of the island at this point, while the waves below have assisted, removing all the debris washed down, and undermining the foundation. The result is very curious. For a space of about 200 yards there is now a narrow roadway, with a precipice on each side, partially sheltered in two places by a shoulder of harder rock than the rest. The road is reached by a deep cutting through the rock on the northern or Great Serk side, and the whole requires more attention than it now receives, to prevent its becoming still more steep and dangerous than it is.*

Standing in the middle of the Coupée, one is able to see the sands and boulders of two small bays, one to the right and the other to the left, at the foot of a precipitous cliff of nearly 300 feet, the greater part of which is almost vertical.† On the Serk side, there is

* In the year 1811, a portion of the surface was detached from near the centre and fell to the bottom, leaving the width of the passage only a few inches more than two feet. In 1813, after the repairs of this part, the width was only five feet—See Quayle's Report, p. 297.

† The actual distance between the base of the cliff towards the east, and the base of the cliff towards the west, as determined trigonometrically by Lieut. Richards during a recent survey of Serk, was 300 yards. It cannot be regarded, however, as altogether permanent

a flat wall of flesh-coloured clay; and at various places between the larger and smaller tracts of land is a very decomposing granite, which helps to vary and improve the outline, though without strengthening the causeway. Defended by the road, the work of destruction goes on slowly; but a very little neglect might result in the entire separation of the two divisions of Serk. It seems to have escaped the notice of most writers on the island, that the Coupée is the result of atmospheric influences above, as well as of the action of the waves below. The latter cannot now act very much, as the sea rarely beats against the earthen buttresses which support the road, except at highest tides, and during severe storms. The rain, however, never fails to remove some of the soft material of which the interspace between the granite on the two sides is formed.

No one should visit Serk without paying a visit to the garden and grounds of the Seigneurie. The inhabited part includes a very picturesque group of buildings, with a tower rising from the dwelling-house, and a number of small constructions, some modern, some very old, but all in good condition and excellent taste. In the grounds every possible advantage is taken of the natural features, and lawns, ponds, shrubberies, plantations, with flower and fruit gardens, are most conveniently and charmingly at hand.

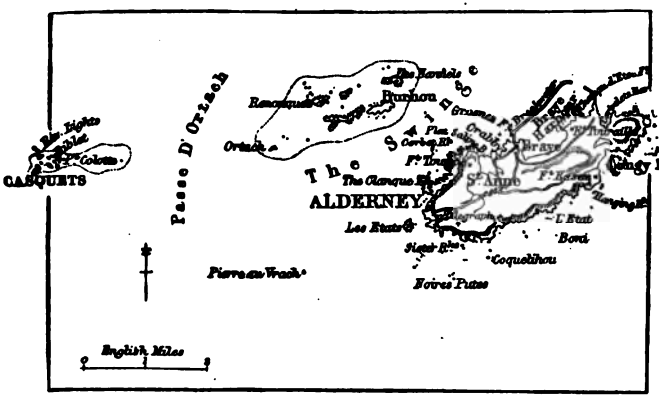
Of the other Serk buildings, the church is not one that can be commended. It was built in 1820, and remains in its original naked ugliness; but some day, no doubt, funds will be obtained to improve

or rebuild it. It unluckily occupies a very prominent position, and produces a most disagreeable effect to the eye from every point of view. The little parsonage is a neat picturesque cottage; one of a group of houses (the ancient manor-house of 1565) which might be called a village. The few other dwelling-places, collected in groups in different parts of the island, are all, with the exception of some miners' cottages in Little Serk, picturesquely, but stoutly built, and with comfortable well-devised roofs either of thatch or tiles. Many of the old buildings are of amazing strength, the walls being sometimes six feet thick, built of solid granite. Notwithstanding the abundance of good granite in Serk, both Jersey and Guernsey stones, especially the former, have often been used for the coign-stones of the buildings, chiefly because it was easier and cheaper to bring them back as ballast from the regular quarries than to quarry and shape the Serk stones.

On the whole, it may safely be said that there are very few islands, even though many times larger than Serk, that contain so much of beauty, romantic scenery, and interest. Notwithstanding its extreme smallness, days and even weeks slip away, and there is always something new to see, some new effect of light and shade on the rocks or foliage to watch, some singular phenomenon of natural history to study, so that one leaves the place at last, even after a lengthened stay, with a feeling that there remains much work to be done, and much to be seen that is new and interesting.

There are no streams in Serk, but water is plentiful, and good at all seasons. The houses being for the most part detached, the population small, and the rainfall considerable, there has never occurred any want, in this respect. With regard to food the case is different, and were it not for the sheep now kept by the farmers, it would often be impossible to obtain meat. Those, however, who are enabled to exist on other food than beef and mutton, will find no difficulty in supplying the requirements of nature.

OLD DOORWAY, FARMHOUSE, GUERNSEY.



ALDERNEY AND THE CASQUETS.

ALDERNEY.

—o—

Position and magnitude.—Latitude between 39° 42′ and 39° 44′ N. Longitude between 2° 9½′ and 2° 14′ W. Length 3½ miles from N.E. to S.W. Width about 1 mile. Highest elevation, 280 ft. *Area*, 1962 English acres. Population in 1871, 2738, greatly dependent on the state of the harbour-works and the number of soldiers stationed in the island. *Distances.*—From the landing-place in the harbour to St. Peter Port, Guernsey, 20 miles; to St. Helier's, Jersey, 45 miles; from Portland Bill, the nearest point of England, 60 miles.

Communication.—Generally twice or thrice a week by steamboat from Guernsey conveying the mail, and starting shortly after the arrival of the mailboat from Southampton at St. Peter

Port. Occasionally by other steamboats making excursions. The landing is alongside a breakwater only recently constructed. The steamer after touching at Alderney, sometimes goes on to Cherbourg.

Language.—Generally English. There is a local French patois, but the islanders who use it are very few in number, and most of the inhabitants are English. The English language is taught in the schools.

Accommodation.—There is an excellent hotel in the town—one of the best in the Channel Islands. It is owned by Captain Scott, the master of the steamer "Queen of the Isles." Very comfortable accommodation may be had there at very moderate cost. There are several others on a somewhat smaller scale. They afford fair accommodation, but are not equally good.

Trade.—Except a small exportation of cows and a very large export of early potatoes, Alderney trade is chiefly confined to the import of articles of consumption required by the troops and by the hands employed on the harbour-works.

Alderney is the largest and principal member of a group of islands and rocks forming the northernmost division of the Channel Islands. As a military position, it may be regarded as the Ehrenbreitstein of the English Channel.* The greater part of the island is a flat table land, more or less cultivated. The land continues flat to the edge of the south-eastern and southern cliffs, which are wonderfully grand, and there descends almost

* It corresponds, however, to what Ehrenbreitstein would be, if in the hands of the French, and held against Germany, rather than to the value of that fortress in the hands of Prussia. As an island, Alderney is considered defensible; but it has a large exposed surface; and only one of the forts (la Touraille) is considered to hold out against a serious land attack with heavy

VIEW FROM THE LOVERS' CHAIR, ALDERNEY

vertically into the sea, presenting to the lover of fine scenery a succession of magnificent examples of broken and perpendicular walls of rock. On the north side of the island the ground slopes gradually towards a succession of bays, more or less tame.

Approaching the island from Guernsey, the exceedingly lofty and abrupt cliffs of Alderney are somewhat masked by a number of detached rocks or islets, lying a short distance from the south-western extremity of the land. A still nearer approach separates them, and shows something of their magnitude and importance. This coast terminates at a small battery or rock fortress, standing out about a furlong from the land, with which it connects by a causeway. The Clanque, as this fortress is named, is the first of an important series of defences which run round nearly five miles of coast, reaching from the Clanque to Fort Essex. The Clanque is situated near the south-western extremity of the island, and the part of the coast requiring defence includes not only the whole of the side of the island facing the north-west, but the whole northern extremity, and about a mile of the side facing south-east. The rest of the south-eastern side and the southern extremity, are naturally defended, and may safely be left to take care of themselves.

The form of Alderney has been mentioned. The ground rises from the sea, on the north-western side, in some places by a gradual slope, and in others by a succession of terraces, to a plateau about 250 feet above the sea-level. The whole of the coast is rocky; on one

side (the west) there is a cliff of irregular angular blocks of granite, fallen away from above, and deposited as a natural talus, reaching about half way up the ancient cliff. On the other side is a bluff precipice of rock, reaching to the sea, and defended by an outer barrier, or fringe of granite islands. Beyond the heap of detritus on the west side, there is also a fringe of unbroken portions of the granite rising out of the sea.

The talus, just described, extends from the Clanque towards the north-east to the commencement of the new harbour, and renders it impossible to strengthen this part of the island except by coast-forts adapted to resist a landing on the dangerous shores of the bays that exist between the Clanque and Touraille forts. Of these bays there are three; the westernmost, Clanque Bay, is between the Clanque and Fort Tourgis. It is very rocky and not deeply indented; nor is the land very approachable from it. The next is the Platte Saline, extending to Fort Doyle, between which and Grosnez is a small bay, called Crabby. There are sands at low-water in these two bays. At Grosnez, the pier commences. On the side of the Platte Saline nearest Fort Tourgis is a pretty opening, giving access to the interior of the island, and connecting with valleys opening in the opposite direction, at a point called Tres Vaux, or Three Valleys. These valleys terminate abruptly at a lofty, vertical cliff. The part of the rock out of which these valleys are scooped is an exceedingly rotten granitic vein, readily acted on by the weather. A small stream

of water comes down to the western coast, and has been made use of to turn a wheel. Roads communicate from the Platte Saline to the town, which lies above, on the plateau, at a short distance.

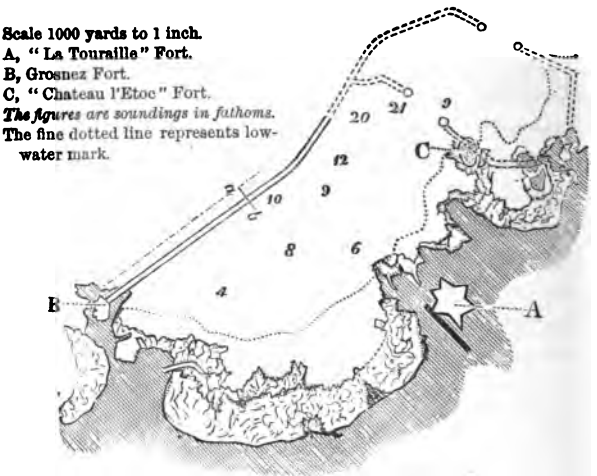
A neck of land near Cape Grosnez is called the Braye, and gives its name to the next bay—the largest and most important of all, and the one selected for the new harbour.

From the extremity of this headland, on which is a strong fort, the long arm of the western pier or breakwater takes its origin. The distance of this point from the opposite land of the bay is about 1200 yards, this being therefore the effective width of the natural bay. The curve is nearly semicircular, but the bottom is rocky and at present shallow. Much blasting and clearing out will therefore be necessary; and owing to the direction taken by the west breakwater, the harbour must always be inconvenient.

The harbour originally projected required the construction of two small breakwaters: one, 900 yards to the east from Cape Grosnez; and another, north-west from Roselle Point, running out 400 yards. These would have enclosed the natural bay.

To enlarge this design (which was originally either too much or too little), it was determined to alter the direction of the west breakwater to east-north-east. This has involved a large quantity of work done in water upwards of twenty fathoms deep, and has completely cut across the excellent anchorage that might have been secured by carrying the breakwater from

rock to rock. Had this latter work been decided on, a magnificent harbour would have been secured at a comparatively small expense. Nearly a million sterling has now been expended on the 1200 yards of the west breakwater at present carried out. The east breakwater is not yet commenced.



BRAYE HARBOUR, ALDERNEY.

The effect of the breakwater hitherto has been to shelter a considerable part of the anchorage from west and south-west gales. There were originally several rocks within the space enclosed, but most of these have been lowered to a sufficient depth to render the harbour safe even for large vessels.

The annexed plan may supply a fair idea of

the works, as the two methods suggested for completing the harbour are indicated by broken lines.

Great as the error has been in the construction of this harbour, and although, beyond doubt, the accommodation, when completed, will be far less and far worse than it ought to have been, no policy could be more absurd or suicidal than to stop or check the works in their present state. The shelter that will be afforded when the works are completed is an object of great importance. To obtain this, vast sums have been expended in constructing a long series of forts, to command efficiently some five miles of coast. It is to this harbour that our merchant ships would look for safety in the event of war. It is here that gun-boats and other ships of war would collect—to this place they would repair for coal and stores—here they might refit, and hence they might issue to cut off and destroy an enemy stationed at Cherbourg. If the Channel Islands are to be preserved—and that the possession of these islands means the possession of the Channel, is more than ever the case now—it can only be by rendering Alderney useful as well as strong; and much of this usefulness consists in there being a harbour of refuge. It is not now the time to consider what might have been done better; but it is a very serious question indeed, what can be done best with the materials still at our command.

On the northern side of the harbour is a hill of no great height, but of an exceedingly hard porphyritic rock, which has been strengthened, and on which is

constructed the principal defence of the island. This is Fort Touraille. Beyond it is another, much smaller, but also important work—the Chateau d'Etoc. Between the two forts is another rocky little bay.

At the foot of a small hill near Fort Touraille is the first of a series of extensive quarries, opened and worked for the purposes of the harbour. The stone here is a grit-stone, partly fine and partly coarse-grained; moderately hard, compact, and capable of being worked in blocks of considerable size.* This kind of sandstone rock forms the whole of a small, low promontory at the north-easternmost extremity of the island. In a military sense, this extremity is the weakest point of the island. The coast is low, and though certainly very rocky, and with a considerable current generally driving past, it might, in favourable weather, be made use of for landing men and artillery.

To strengthen as much as possible this part of the island, no less than six forts and batteries have been constructed, the total length of coast-line being only about two miles; but it still remains weak, should an attack be made with mail-clad ships able to silence the batteries. There would be no difficulty in constructing a deep and wide canal, detaching this weak part of Alderney altogether, reducing the number of men and guns required for the defence of the place, and greatly

* It is a fact of some interest, that many old buildings in Guernsey are partly constructed of this stone. It was, no doubt, much less costly to work and carry it from Alderney than to break the island granite with the imperfect tools at command.

strengthening the remaining defences, by rendering the landing of artillery almost impossible, except in Braye Harbour or on the Platte Saline.

This little promontory of sandstone has several small rocky bays, the last and largest of which, and that which cuts deepest into the shore, is called Longy Bay. Sand partly covers the rocks in all these bays; but the grit-stone rises in small jagged ledges and angular blocks, often extremely picturesque, and giving a curious appearance to the shore at low-water. A small island of sandstone is connected by a causeway with the northern side of Longy Bay. It is called the "Isle du Ras"—the island of the Race (of Alderney)—a name corrupted into Rat Island. On it is a fort of some importance. Similar islands, occupied by forts and communicating by causeways, may be seen to the east and west of the northernmost point of Alderney, completing, as far as possible, the defences of those parts of the coast regarded as assailable.

The scenery of the coast, from the Clanque round to Longy, is not either grand or very picturesque. There are some small valleys with a few trees; but for the most part the aspect of the land is naked and tame. Fort Touraille is an exception; and, from its severe simplicity of outline, it impresses one more with an idea of strength than any other part of the island. It is well placed, the approaches are few, and the intensely hard porphyritic rock on which it is built has been made available on all sides.

From Longy Bay the rest of the south-eastern part

of the island, a distance of nearly five miles, offers a succession of grand and beautiful examples of cliff scenery. These, however, are only approachable with some little difficulty, by following the line of the cliff, and descending from place to place where the ground admits. There is hardly a single point along this whole coast at which it is possible to reach the sea without incurring greater trouble and risk than the occasion altogether warrants; but, without this, enough may be done to satisfy the lover of the picturesque, however severe and critical his taste may be. Commencing at Longy, one can ascend the steep cliff to the south by a good road, which continues as far as Fort Essex, where there is a curious little tower, said to be of great antiquity. From this, a rough climb conducts to the Roche Pendante, one of the most magnificent isolated masses of sandstone rock to be seen. This grand pinnacle rises from a heap of broken fragments of sandstone, but is itself a part of the cliff. The separation is a narrow gorge, whose walls are absolutely vertical. The rock, having a stratification parallel with that of the cliff, stands—a huge, square block of stone—on a base whose area is some two or three thousand square feet. It is at least thirty, perhaps forty, feet in height, and there is another similar but smaller block a little below, which again connects with a succession of rocky eminences extending out into the sea.

A noble view is obtained from the rocks at the foot of the Roche Pendante, the sandstone being seen in a succession of stratified plates dipping away into

the sea, and covering the cliffs as far as the eye can reach. Many inlets occur, and each of them presents peculiar and beautiful features, produced by numerous thinly-bedded grey rocks, coated with lichens, projecting beyond the soil.

Passing on along the slope of the cliff, the grit-stone may be walked on for more than a mile. It then ceases, and is succeeded by deep hollows, alternating with bold, narrow ridges of hard granite rock, several of the granitic masses extending out to sea and forming detached islands. The cliffs are here, without exception, far too steep to render a descent possible; but one can generally perceive the nature of the coast by going some distance down on the deeply-shelving slope, overgrown with broom, heather, and grass. At one place a huge arched rock is seen, the light piercing through from the further side. In another is a small beach, covered with black sand, mixed up with numerous large rounded blocks of granite. Here the rocks descend at once into a deep black pool; there the water is so clear that the rocky bottom is visible from the cliffs above, although their height is nearly 200 feet.

Continuing to work our way round the various inlets, we come again, after a time, to the sandstone, of which there is a second small patch, quarried near the top of the cliff, and seen reaching the sea. Afterwards there is nothing but naked and rough granite and porphyry. Wonderfully broken and precipitous are the cliffs thus formed. Many of them are quite vertical either to the sea or to very small bays, where the

water is seen foaming and boiling in the most extraordinary manner. From one headland to another—round great hollow depressions, where the granite is soft and decomposing—along parts of the cliff where wide cracks at the surface show the possibility of the ground sinking under his feet, the visitor must pick his way, rewarded occasionally by bursts of unexpected grandeur and beauty. The cliffs are often so vertical that one may look down to the sea rolling in at one's feet, and across a narrow inlet perceive clearly the geological structure of an opposite cliff. There is one spot in particular, where a wall of rock, a couple of hundred feet deep, displays a beautiful olive-coloured porphyry crossed by great horizontal veins of flesh-coloured felspar, succeeding one another at intervals down to the water's edge.

The scenery of the cliffs varies a good deal, and much of it is almost peculiar to Alderney. In many places depressions of the surface are observable, and one is obliged either to make a wide circuit or descend a deep hollow. Two or three such scoopings out of the surface are passed on the south-east coast. They correspond to the presence of a peculiarly decomposing rotten material, that alternates with the hard parts of the rock. As there are generally hard walls to these softer hollows, they are often in the highest degree picturesque, for the action of the sea having worn away a deep inlet, the wall of rock on each side allows of the inlet being approached pretty closely without inconvenience. Up one such hollow the telegraph-wire communicating

from Portland, through Alderney, to Guernsey and Jersey, had been brought. It is now unfortunately useless.

Towards the south-western extremity of the island there is a succession of very bold and grand cliffs, beyond which is a reef of picturesque rocks, some of them of large size. At length we come in sight of Clanque Battery, and the little island beyond. These mark the termination of the bold line of coast. The fragments of a magnificent Druidical monument may be traced on the cliff at this point.

It is the fashion, and has become almost a tradition among the officers quartered at this station, to speak of Alderney as a desolate spot, offering no single object of interest, and nothing to occupy any rational person for many hours. But those who are capable of appreciating grand, rocky scenery, and who are able to look at it; persons who would regard Wales, Scotland, and Switzerland, as worth visiting for themselves, for their wild beauty, and for the sublimity of their scenery, ought not to complain of this remarkable island. Such persons may find along the coast we have been describing, quite as much grandeur and beauty as they have anywhere seen in a day's ramble. And although there is certainly no extended line of this fine rocky cliff, owing to the smallness of the island, still even a distance of only five miles, where every hundred yards exhibits something worth pausing to admire, will occupy a good deal of time. A considerable drawback exists, owing to the great difficulty, often amounting to impossibility, of getting down safely

to the water's edge, and rambling on from point to point at low-tide, as can be done in Serk.

To get to the small beaches a boat is necessary; and it is not often, even in weather apparently fine, that boatmen will be found willing to venture so near the shore as to enable one to visit the beaches, and examine closely the naked rocks and the caverns.

Although the coast certainly affords the principal objects of interest in Alderney, there are other and not trifling matters on the plateau. The town itself is pretty much what might be expected from the circumstances of its origin and growth. A multitude of new, small, plain houses, covers the part looking towards the new harbour. There is nothing either in their design or execution that requires a remark. There are few public buildings except the new church, and not one of them exhibits anything but the worst style and most vulgar taste, if we except the Independent chapel, recently built. The design and execution of this chapel are creditable to the architect.

The new parish church affords another and a striking exception to this criticism. Placed unfortunately in a depression, and not on the top of the high ground, the massive early English style selected prevents it from being favourably seen, except from one or two points not easily reached. Thus its noble and severe proportions, instead of being felt as elements of strength and beauty, as they would have been had the building occupied a commanding position on so small an island in an open sea, now communicate an opposite impres-

sion, and some of the best parts of the design cannot be at all appreciated.

Still it is a remarkable building, and does great credit to its eminent designer, Mr. Gilbert Scott. The walls are of island sandstone, with quoins of Caen stone—a selection much to be regretted, as this latter stone is eminently ill-adapted for out-door wear in such a climate as that of Alderney. Accordingly, although it was built so lately as 1850, all the faces of these stones on west and south-west exposures are scaling and falling away.

Except the doors, which want size and importance, and the windows, which, even for the style, seem extremely narrow, the exterior of this church must be regarded as satisfactory, if we exclude from consideration the unfortunate want of adaptation of the building to its site. Within, few modern churches could be pointed out which show better taste and feeling for the sacred purpose of their construction. Everything here harmonises, and even the smallness of the windows is not objectionable, so complete and well arranged is the light.

A beautiful circular apse, at the extremity of the choir, forms a proper finish, and is connected with the building by an arch of exquisite proportions. The roof is simple and effective, not at all prominent, rather original and very ingenious, while there reigns throughout a mixture of order and variety that cannot but please the most fastidious taste.

The church is a worthy memorial of the family of

Le Mesurier, long the hereditary governors of the island; and was erected, with that intention, by the son of the last of the hereditary governors, the late Lieut.-General Le Mesurier.

An extremely fine portrait and good picture, said to be by Opie, representing this active and energetic officer, is suspended in the Court-house. It is a picture remarkable as well for its drawing as its colouring; evidently true to nature, and rendering, without flattery, the higher qualities of the intellect; and this in a manner rarely seen in modern English art.

Outside the town, and in the open country away from the cliff, there is not much in Alderney that is interesting to the general tourist. The geologist, however, will find a good deal to interest him, and the antiquarian may study to advantage a number of supposed cromlechs, which, in comparatively recent times, seem to have been far more perfect than they now are. In one part of the island, near Fort Touraille, called *les Rochers*, a common is strewn with a vast multitude of round blocks of granite. These have not really been water-worn, as might be supposed. Similar blocks exist in great abundance just below the surface. Those standing alone on the surface are probably *in situ*; but where several are near together, especially if arranged in any order or heaped one upon another, they have, perhaps, been removed a short distance.

There are few trees in Alderney, except in two or three small valleys opening to the sea, on the side facing the Channel. Over the whole of the plateau

the land is naked, and divided into long, narrow strips by a few boundary marks; or, at the most, by low stone fences. Near the edge, the ground is usually uncultivated, and is often not very easy to walk upon, as it slopes rapidly, and terminates abruptly in steep and dangerous cliffs.

Alderney is amply supplied with water, obtained from wells in most parts of the island, and from a few small running streams. The water is of good quality.

The islands between Alderney and the Casquet rocks are uninhabited, and rarely visited except by fishermen in the summer. They offer nothing worthy of special notice. The Casquet rocks have been already described at the commencement of this guide.—See p. x. They may be visited either from Alderney or Guernsey. Their lighthouses are so placed as to form a triangle. There is telegraphic communication between their keepers and Trinity House—under whose management the lighthouses are placed; and a register of the wind, the weather, and other facts affecting navigation is kept in the "Casquets."

THE CHAUSSEY ARCHIPELAGO;

INCLUDING

THE MINQUIERS AND THE DOUVRES.

THE islands thus designated, although chiefly belonging to France, are geographically a part of the Channel Islands group. They contain but little cultivable land. and are for the most part rocky fragments half covered by the sea at high water. The number of shoals, rocks, reefs, rocky islets, and islands, seen at low water is exceedingly great. The sea around is very dangerous, and there are few good channels of deep water. The rocks and shoals form altogether an irregular line about 60 miles long, ranging about W.N.W. to E.S.E., extending from near Granville to the Douvres—the outermost group above the water—and including the Minquiers, a large and exceedingly dangerous bank with a few rocky islands permanently above the water. For thirty miles out from the French coast, in the direction of these rocks, there is no water ten fathoms deep, and few passages safe even for small vessels. Beyond this is a good passage of twenty miles, terminating with the Douvres.

The Minquiers are the rocks seen on crossing from St. Helier's to St. Malo, or *vice versâ*. The Chaussey Islands are between the Minquiers and Granville. The plateau or bank of the Minquiers is about twenty miles from east to west, and ten from north to south. The north edge of the bank is about twelve miles from St. Helier's.

The highest and largest of the Minquiers is called the "Maitresse Ile." It lies in a direct line between St. Helier's and St. Malo. It measures 200 yards by about 50, and rises 72 feet above high water at neap tides. There are several huts on it, and some traces of vegetation, but it is only used as a resort of fishermen during summer and vraicking season. There is no fresh water on it.

The Maitresse Isle is not the central rocky group of the Minquiers. This group is called "les Faucheurs." None of the rocks are high. They are parts of very dangerous and abrupt rocky ledges rising out of water comparatively deep. There is excellent fishing-ground in the sands and shingle banks near, generally much resorted to for turbot.

The Chaussey Islands are about eight miles west of the Rock of Granville. They occupy an irregular space six and a half miles from east to west, and five miles from north to south. The largest island is called "La Grande Ile." It is the furthest to the south, and is the only one of any importance.

Seen as we approach the islands from Granville, a kind of natural breakwater appears to extend parallel to

the coast of the Cotentin. This fringe or wall of rock is, however, broken through at many points, and on a nearer view the breakwater resolves itself into a chain of rocky islets with very narrow boat passages between them. They rise out of deep water. All are of granite and much weather-worn. They are marked, for the sake of recognition, some by little towers, some by masts, others by piles of stones. On two or three are huts, and these have a little pasturage for a few cows or sheep, which feed on the coarse wiry grass that grows upon them. Brambles, furze, and broom, are mixed with this coarse herbage.

The "Grande Ile" is approached through rocks that resemble some vast Druidical monument. There is a narrow channel leading to a small cove (the Sound of Chaussey); and here a pier and harbour have been constructed by the French government.

The island is about two miles in length, but very irregular, and much narrower than its length. It consists of a number of low hummocks of rocky granite, more or less decomposed and weathered, and covered at intervals with grass. The hummocks are connected by rocky causeways.

Towards the north is a hill called the Gros Mont, and towards the south an elevated headland called Pointe Marie. On the western side is a low ridge of hilly ground on which are the ruins of a fort, erected during the seventeenth century on the site of an old monastery. There is a burial place adjacent.

Under the shelter of these hills are several houses

and farm buildings, with some fields and an orchard. Here also are some quarries of exceedingly tough and sound hornblendic granite.

Formerly there were about a hundred inhabitants of the island, employed in fishing, cultivating, and quarrying. There was then a Seigneur with feudal rights. The French government having purchased it, took possession, and the island is fortified.

There is excellent fresh water obtained in large quantity from a permanent spring.

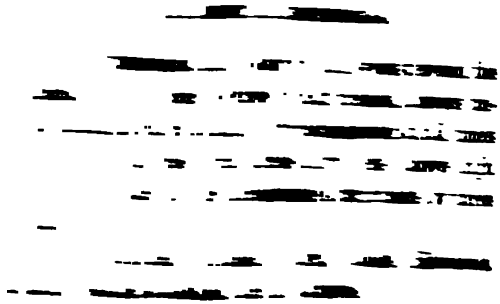
From the Gros Mont an excellent view of the whole Archipelago is obtained. At high water the islands are detached, and the rocks can be counted. Towards low water the contrast is very striking. The islands seem much larger and connected. The rocks have become islands. Other rocks also have come into view, and all are covered with enormous quantities of sea-weed. The appearance is thus described by M. Quatrefages, an eminent French naturalist, who, some years ago, published a delightful work on the coast of Normandy, entitled "Rambles of a Naturalist." He says, "Blocks of every variety of form and size are grouped together in a thousand different ways, some rising into pyramids, others graduated and cut into irregular tiers of steps; others again, heaped into confused masses like the ruins of some giant structure; at one place appearing like colossal Druidical stones, at another entangled together like the rude materials of some Cyclopean edifice, or else suspended and so slightly poised that a breath of air seems sufficient to overthrow them."

A good deal of business is done on the "Grande Ile." Besides the government works, which are extensive, there are the farmers and farm-labourers, stone-cutters, fishermen, and barilla-collectors. There are seven or eight families of fishermen living in primitive huts, consisting of rough walls of stone, three or four feet high, cemented by mud, and covered by old boats turned upside down. In each such dwelling, ten or twelve feet long and six or eight wide, sleeps a whole family, consisting of father, mother, sons, daughters, nephews, nieces, and friends attracted from the mainland by the promise of a day's fishing. The principal fish caught are, however, not fish but lobsters, of which each family is estimated to take from eight to ten thousand annually. They are sold at Coutances, and forwarded to Paris. Shrimps are also sometimes taken in enormous quantities.

The sea-weed on the Chaussey rocks is cut from the rocks at low water, dried on the sands, burnt, and the ashes melted in kilns. In this way is produced the barilla of commerce.

Besides the "Grande Ile," several of the smaller islands are named. They are of extreme interest to the naturalist, especially to the marine zoologist. They are in this respect almost as rich as the celebrated caverns of Serk, but they are hardly more accessible.

There is a lighthouse on the "Grande Ile," at an elevation of 120 feet from the sea, the light being visible fifteen miles. A strong fort has been built, and the island has been made defensible.



l
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ende
ient

INDEX.

Alderney, 165
Ancresse, 106
Anne Port, 49
Archæology, 6
Archirondelle Tower, 50
Autel de Dehus, 110
Autelet Rocks, 154

Bailiff's Cross, 107
Baker's Valley, 150
Bec du Nez, 108
Beau Port, 50
Beau Sejour, 95
Belgrave Bay, 109
Bon Air, 115
Bonne Nuit, 50
Bordeaux Harbour, 110
Bouley Bay, 51
Braye du Val, 139
Brechou, 158

Cæsar's Fort, 69
Casquets, the, 5
Castle Cornet, 111
Catel, 112
Chapelle des Pêcheurs, 77
Chateau d'Etoc, 172
Chateau des Marais, 123
Chaussey Island, 183
Clanque Battery, 177
Climate, 13
Cobo Bay and Church, 113
Corbière, 114
Corbières, 53
Coupe, 54
Coupée, the, 159
Couperon, 54
Crabbe, 55
Creux Harbour, 145
Creux Mahie, 114
Crevichon, 114

Dirouilles Rocks, 55
Douet de la Mer, 54
Douvres, the, 88

Ecrehou Rocks, 55
Elizabeth Castle, 45
Elizabeth College, Guernsey, 102
Etac, 56

Fermain Bay, 115
Ferriere Rocks, 115
Fliquet Bay, 57
Fort George, 116
Fort Regent, 45
Fort Touraille, 172

Geology, 21
Giffard's Bay, 51, 57
Gorey or Gouray, 57
Gouffre, 116
Gouliot Caves, 155
Gouliot Rock, the, 158
Grand Havre, 117
Grande Rocque, 117
Grand Val, the, 48
Grève au Lançon, 59
Grève d'Azette, 84
Grève de la Ville, 151
Grève de Lecq, 61
Grosnez Point, 62
Grouville Church and Harbour, 63
Guernsey, 89; climate, 91; commerce, 92; Botany of, 94; money, weights and measures, 97
Gull Cliff, 117

Hanois Rocks, 118
Havre Gosselin, the, 157
Havilland Hall, 108
Haye du Puits, 118
Herm, 119

Hermitage, 41
History, 6
Hougue Bie, 64

Icart, 122
Isle du Ras, 173
Ivy Castle, 123

Jerbourg, 124
Jersey, 33; divisions, 34; climate, 34; commerce, 35; money, weights, and measures, 39.
Jethou, 124

King's Mills, 125

La Chaire, 74
La Coupe, 57
La Crete Point, 55
La Houle, 66
La Motte, 79
La Pule, 73
Language, 10
Laws and Constitution, 23
L'Eree, 125
Les Landes, 66
Les Terres, 138
Lihou, 126
Longy Bay, 173

Mill Brook, 66
Mont Mado, 67
Moulin Huet, 127
Mount Orgeuil Castle, 67
Mouriers, 70
Moye Point, 70, 129

Natural History, 16
Noirmont, 71

Paradis, 110
Parelle Bay, 130
Petit Bot Bay, 130
Petit Port, 130
Pierres de Lecq, 71
Plateau des Minquiers, 87
Pleinmont, 131
Plemont, 71
Pontac Village, 79
Portelet Bay, 72
Prince's Tower, 64

Quenvais, 73

Richmond, 132
Roche Pendante, the, 174
Rocquaine Bay, 132
Rozel Village and Bay, 74

Saie Harbour, 75
Saints Bay, 133
St. Andrew's, 133
St. Apolline, 133
St. Aubin's, Town and Bay, 75
St. Brelade's, 77
St. Catherine's Bay, 78
St. Clement's Bay and Church, 79
St. George, 134
St. Helier's, 41
St. Martin's, 134
St. Ouen's, 80
St. Peter's, 83
St. Peter's in the Wood, 136
St. Peter Port, 98
St. Sampson's, 136
St. Saviour's, 83, 136
Samarez Bay and Manor House, 84
Sark, 143
Sauchet, 85
Seigneurie, the, 161
Sorel Point, 85

Torteval, 136
Trinity, 85

Val des Vaux, 86
Vale, 139
Valnor, 95
Vazon, 140
Verclut Point, 78, 86
Vicard, 86
Victoria College, 44

Witches' Rock, 84

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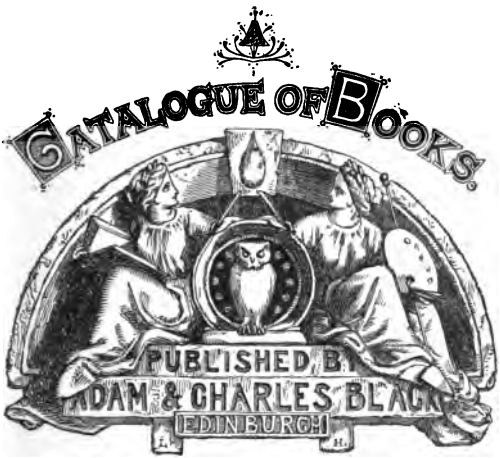

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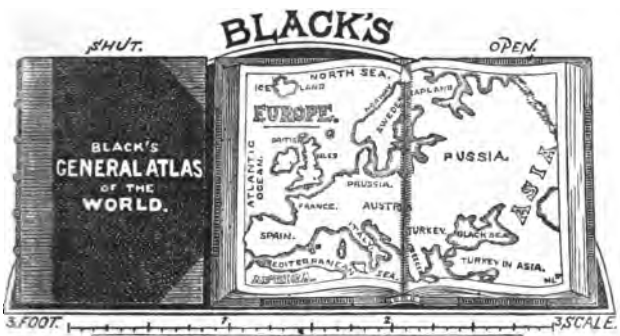

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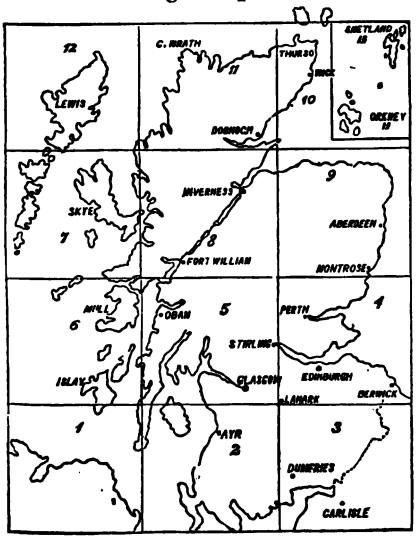

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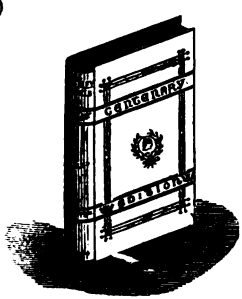

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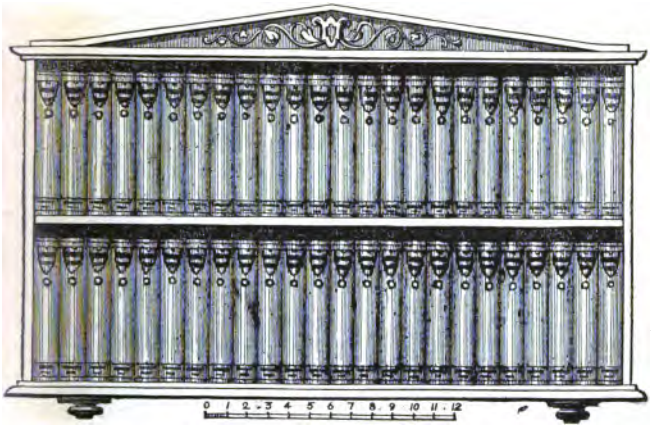

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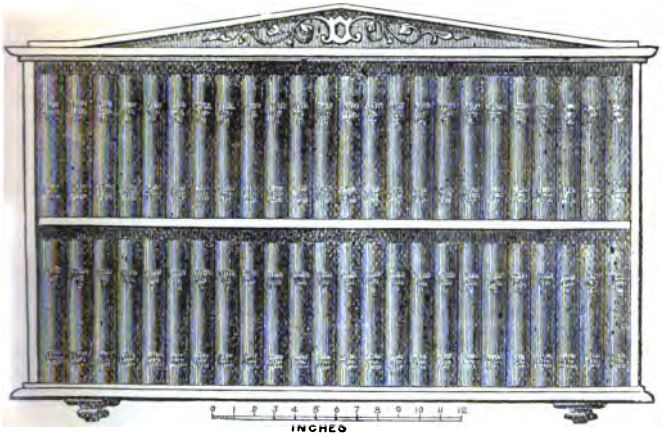

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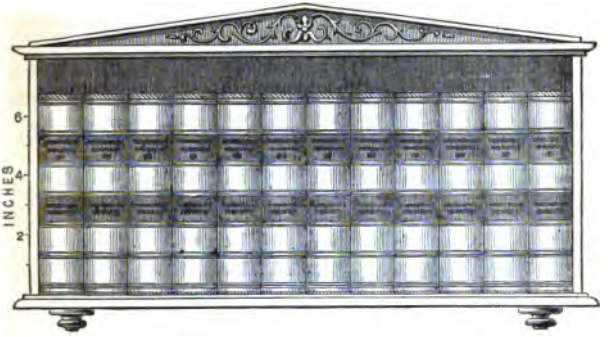

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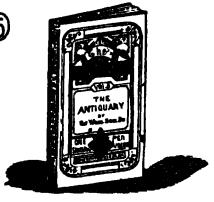

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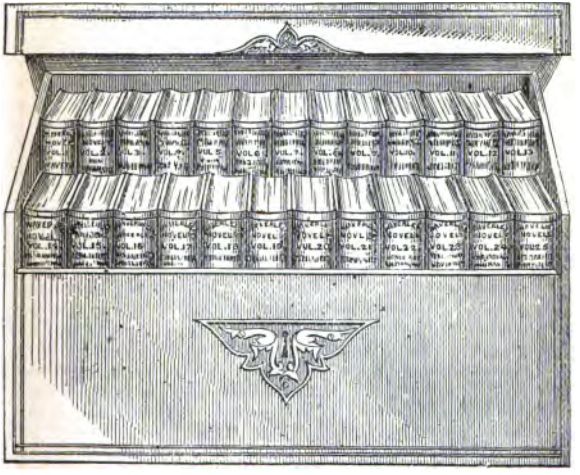

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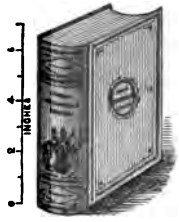
2/6  2/6

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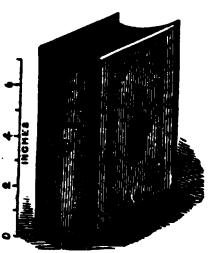

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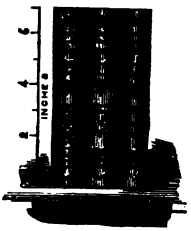

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